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MONTHLY BULLETIN
AMERICAN REPUBLICS BUREAU

VOLUME 26—PART 1
JANUARY-MARCH
1908

WASHINGTON
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
1908

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International Union of American Republics

Monthly Bulletin

OF THE

International Bureau

OF THE

American Republics

VOL. 26, NO. 1

JANUARY, 1908

WHOLE NO. 172

WASHINGTON, D. C., U. S. A.

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

1908

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JOHN BARRETT,
Director of the International Bureau of the American Republics.

FRANCISCO J. YÁNES,
Secretary.

WILLIAM C. WELLS,
Chief Clerk.

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While the utmost care is taken to insure accuracy in the publications of the International Bureau of the American Republics, no responsibility is assumed on account of errors or inaccuracies which may occur therein.

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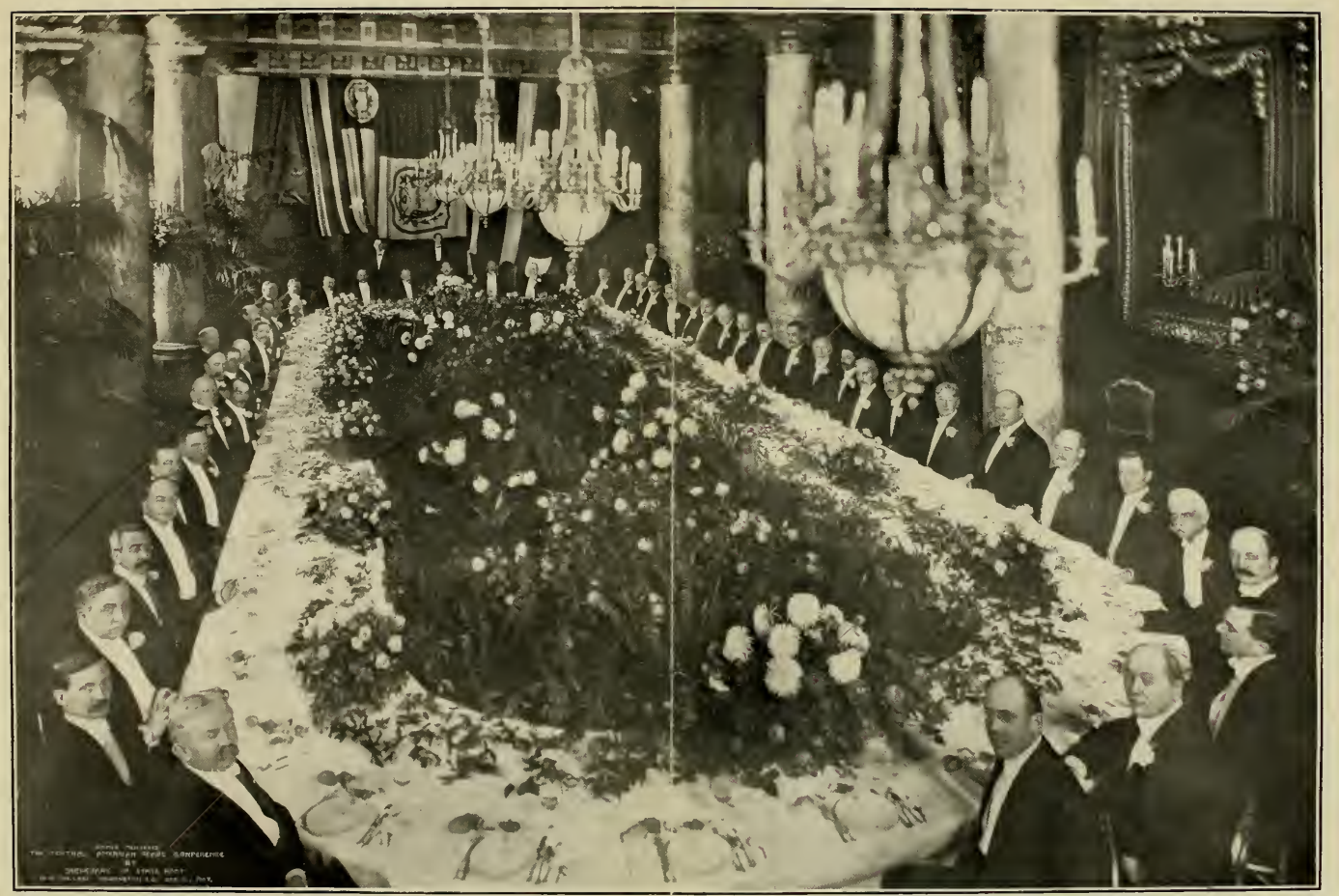


DINNER GIVEN IN WASHINGTON, DECEMBER 9, 1907, BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE OF THE UNITED STATES, IN HONOR OF DELEGATES TO CENTRAL AMERICAN PEACE CONFERENCE. THE VICE-PRESIDENT, SPEAKER OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, MEMBERS OF THE SUPREME COURT, AND OF THE SENATE AND HOUSE COMMITTEES ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS WERE AMONG THE GUESTS.

Monthly Bulletin

OF THE

International Bureau of the American Republics,

International Union of American Republics.

Vol. XXVI. JANUARY, 1908. No. 1.

The welcome which the Brazilian Government and people gave the battle-ship fleet of the United States when it entered the port of Rio de Janeiro on January 12 was so genuine and cordial, and the hospitalities which were extended during the ten days' stay of the ships were so lavish and extensive, that the officers and men will never forget the attention shown them. At no time in the history of the American Navy's cruises abroad has there been a more marked effort to show appreciation of their presence than that manifested by Brazil at Rio de Janeiro. From indications, of which there is now knowledge, it would appear that the reception to be accorded the officers and men of the ships at Callao and Lima by the Peruvian Government and people will be on a similar scale of sincerity and magnificence to what was done at Rio de Janeiro. Although Punta Arenas, the only point in Chilean territory at which the fleet will touch, is far from the principal port of Valparaiso and the capital, Santiago, the Chilean Government is taking steps to welcome the fleet there in such a way that it will also remember its brief stay in Chilean waters.

The presence of the battle-ship fleet of the United States in South American waters in its cruise to the Pacific is doing much to awaken additional interest throughout the United States in the Latin-American Republics. Scores of letters are coming into this Bureau, not only from newspapers and other publications, but from individuals, which are prompted, as the writers state, by a desire to know more about the countries and ports which the fleet will visit or pass in its wonderful journey. For example, several hundred newspapers have been provided with very full descriptive data about Rio de Janeiro Punta Arenas, and Callao, so that they can publish articles that will describe these points to their readers. In this connection, it can be

stated that before the fleet started the Bureau provided the officers and men of each ship with a set of the Bureau's publications in regard to Latin America, in order that as they steamed around the Southern Continent, they could be informing themselves fully about South America. That this courtesy on the part of the Bureau was appreciated is shown by the cordial letters of thanks which have come from the captains of the ships.

THE NEXT PAN-AMERICAN CONFERENCE.

At the meeting of the Governing Board of the Bureau, held on January 8, a resolution was introduced, providing that the Fourth International Pan-American Conference be held in Buenos Aires in 1910. Action on the resolution was deferred until the next meeting of the Governing Board, to be held on February 5, in order that the different members of the Board could communicate with their respective Governments and ascertain their attitude on this point. At the adjournment of the conference held in Rio de Janeiro in 1906, it was generally understood that the next conference would be held in Buenos Aires, but it was left for the Governing Board of the Bureau to determine later on the actual place and date. The principal reason for selecting the year 1910, instead of 1911 or 1912, is that the Argentine Republic will celebrate in that year the hundredth anniversary of its independence, and now plans to hold a great exposition. In view of the rapid progress, both political and commercial, which Latin America is now making and of the closer relations developing between the United States and her sister Republics, the Fourth Pan-American Conference is sure to have much to consider of interest to all the countries concerned, and will have an important bearing on their future relations.

EXPOSITIONS IN SOUTH AMERICA.

The BULLETIN has already called particular attention to the exposition which the Brazilian Government is to hold in Rio de Janeiro this coming summer, and that which the Argentine Government will hold at Buenos Aires in 1910. Now, the Government of Ecuador announces that it will hold an exposition at Quito in 1909, and it has extended an invitation to the United States Government to participate. In order to comply with this invitation, President ROOSEVELT has sent a message to Congress recommending a specific appropriation for this purpose. Neither the Governments of Brazil nor the Argentine Republic plan to invite foreign countries to take part, although their manufacturers and merchants will be allowed

to make exhibits under special conditions. As Ecuador has particularly requested the United States to participate, it is hoped that Congress will vote the necessary money for the construction of a creditable building and the sending of a comprehensive exhibit. In a short time the railroad from Guayaquil, on the coast of Ecuador, to Quito, the capital, in the interior, will be completed, so that passengers can make the journey from the steamer landing at Guayaquil to the scene of the exposition at Quito in twenty-four hours, over a line of railroad which is one of the wonders of the world in the engineering difficulties it has overcome and in the scenery it provides. Quito itself is one of the interesting cities of South America, and the climate is agreeable. Its altitude above the sea, approximately 10,000 feet, saves it from the excessive heat of the low tropics, and its nearness to the equator protects it from severe cold. When the exposition opens, it will be possible to make the trip from New York to Quito in less than ten days, so that there ought to be a considerable attendance from the United States.

IMPROVED SOUTH AMERICAN STEAMSHIP CONNECTIONS.

The Lamport and Holt Steamship Company is to be congratulated upon the improvements now being made in the service between New York and Rio de Janeiro and Buenos Aires. The great complaint in the past has been that there have been too few steamers with high-grade passenger arrangements running between the principal ports of the United States and those of the east coast of South America. Three new vessels, each of 9,000 tons burden, with excellent accommodations for 150 first-class cabin, and 50 second-class and third-class passengers, have been placed on the line. These are new boats, and the first of them to make the run is the *Verdi*. To celebrate this important event, a large dinner was given January 14, on board the *Verdi* at New York, at which were present men from New York and other sections of the country interested in the development of trade with South America. All who inspected the steamship were favorably impressed, and each guest felt as if he would like to start at once on a visit to South America. It is to be hoped that travelers throughout the United States who have hesitated heretofore to go to South America on account of inferior accomodations may be tempted to make the trip, now that vessels of this kind are running. In turn, it is hoped that more representative South Americans, who before have hesitated to visit the United States, for the same reason, may be induced to undertake the journey. There is no better way to promote friendly relations between different countries than the mutual interchange of travel.

FURTHER EXPRESSION OF INTEREST BY PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT.

All persons interested in the promotion of closer relations between the United States and Latin America were pleased with the reference which President ROOSEVELT made to the International Bureau in his message, and which was reproduced in the last issue of the BULLETIN. Following this, comes a letter which he has recently written to Prof. L. S. ROWE, of the University of Pennsylvania. This points out the distinct advantage of more intimate intellectual association between North and South America, and expresses deep interest on the part of the President in plans which may be carried out along this line. The letter of the President is reproduced elsewhere in this issue of the BULLETIN.

THE NEXT LAKE MOHONK CONFERENCE.

H. C. PHILLIPS, Secretary of the Lake Mohonk Conference on International Arbitration, informs the Bureau that the session for 1908 will be held on May 20, 21, and 22, and that it is now planned to give much attention to Pan-American matters. He hopes that the Bureau and the Governing Board of this institution will take a special interest in the conference and be well represented in its deliberations. In his communication he says: "I think that it is safe to say that the attention attracted by last year's Pan-American session has been of no little benefit to the general cause of arbitration, and that a similar session this year, well announced, will be more effective."

COLOMBIAN BUREAU OF INFORMATION.

President RAFAEL REYES, of Colombia, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs, A. VASQUEZ COBO, have taken a direct step forward in making Colombia better known throughout the world by organizing in Bogota a Central Colombian Office of Information, which will have branches in London, Paris, Brussels, Hamburg, Barcelona, and New York. In the decree issued by the Minister of Foreign Affairs he states that these agencies are to be provided with newspapers and other official publications of general interest, which may serve to furnish information to the public in Europe and in the United States concerning Colombia and the opportunities existing there for the investment of foreign capital. The Minister also announces that this Bureau will correspond with the International Bureau of the American Republics established in Washington, and asks that the International Bureau give the Colombian Bureau such cooperation as it can in the carrying out of its important work.

TRADE CONDITIONS IN COLOMBIA.

The "Report on Trade Conditions in Colombia," prepared by CHARLES M. PEPPER, Special Agent of the Department of Commerce and Labor, and recently published by the Bureau of Manufactures, is timely and interesting. It takes up carefully all the facts about trade, commerce, resources, and opportunities in Colombia which should be known by those persons who intend to do business with that country or invest capital in it. Mr. PEPPER made a visit to Colombia and studied attentively the conditions before preparing this paper. He is now continuing his investigations in Ecuador, Peru, and other South American countries, and will prepare corresponding pamphlets concerning them.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MANUFACTURERS.

The National Association of Manufacturers, which has its general offices at 170 Broadway, New York City, and whose president is JAMES W. VAN CLEAVE, of St. Louis, Mo., is developing a subordinate feature of its organization which is of great importance. The December issue of "American Industries" describes graphically how the association is planning to supply its members with every variety of information they may desire concerning conditions of trade in foreign countries. At the same time, the fact is emphasized that foreign merchants are always provided, free of charge, with such information as they may seek regarding commercial or industrial subjects. If an exporter or merchant of any South American city or country wishes to do business in the United States he can write to the National Association of Manufacturers and receive in reply the data he desires as to firms with whom he should communicate. This will be of great help to the promotion of trade between the United States and her sister Republics. The Bureau is glad to acknowledge the tender of cooperation which it has received from the association for promoting Pan-American trade, and it will always be glad to furnish any information it can in turn to its members who may be contemplating entrance into the Latin-American field.

THE BUREAU AT THE THIRD INTERNATIONAL SANITARY CONVENTION.

The active participation of the Bureau in the Third International Sanitary Convention held in the City of Mexico during December, 1907, is demonstrated by the report of its special representative, Mr. FRANCISCO J. YANES, Secretary of the Bureau, as published in this issue of the BULLETIN. He notes not only the interest of Latin America in modern hygienic conditions, but also a growing appreciation of the work of the Pan-American Bureau at Washington.

ARGENTINE COMMERCIAL STATISTICS.

Trade figures furnished by the Argentine Statistical Bureau for the nine months—January to September—of 1907 show the satisfactory trade balance in favor of the Republic of $38,043,393, import values being $202,835,218 and exports, $240,878,611. As compared with the corresponding period of the preceding year both branches of commerce show satisfactory gains, an advance of $5,519,704 being noted for imports and of $16,247,350 for exports.

The agricultural development proceeding in the Republic is indicated by the official statement of the crop areas sown in 1907—wheat, linseed, and oats all showing increased acreage. The measures taken for the adequate handling of national products are in line with the general spirit of progress pervading the country, while a recent law granting free customs entry for ten years, to all sorts of machinery, tools, and materials requisite in mining and metallurgical establishments, foreshadows a greater activity in this branch of industrial life.

BRAZIL'S TRADE BALANCE.

In spite of the shrinkage in values of the two leading items of Brazilian exportation—coffee and rubber—during August and September, 1907, the balance of trade in favor of the Republic showed a marked gain for the first nine months of the year as compared with the same period of 1906, advancing from $53,000,000 to $63,000,000; imports figuring for $147,000,000, and exports for $210,000,000. In both branches of trade gratifying gains were made over last year, and the heavy importation of machinery and materials for public works continued until the close of the year.

An important measure for the furtherance of national industries is the authorization of a new agricultural bank, capitalized for $10,000,000, which shall facilitate in every feasible manner the development of agriculture, providing capital and credit for guaranteed enterprises.

Agricultural progress is to be further incited through the establishment of Japanese colonies in the States of Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo, contracts for the introduction of settlers having been entered into between the local authorities and the company interested.

NEW MINISTER FROM CHILE TO THE UNITED STATES.

In welcoming the new Chilean Minister to the United States, Señor Don Aníbal Cruz, the Pan-American Bureau makes acknowledgment of the valuable services rendered in this capacity by the retiring Min-

ister, Señor WALKER-MARTINEZ, now representing the Department of Santiago in the Chilean National Congress. Señor CRUZ, on the occasion of presenting his credentials to the President of the United States on November 16, 1907, communicated the desire of his Government for the maintenance of the happy relations existing between the two countries, which expression was earnestly echoed in the reply of President ROOSEVELT.

The culture of flax in Chile is to be protected by a governmental bounty, if the bill presented by the Executive to Congress on October 25, 1907, shall become a law. In the bill in reference, $150,000 is set apart for the payment of bounties on flax produced, manufactured, and exported in the Republic for a period of twelve years.

The commercial status of the country is indicated by the fact that the customs revenue collected at the various ports during the first nine months of 1907, reported as $26,000,000, show an advance of over $3,000,000, as compared with the same period of the preceding year.

NATIONAL INDUSTRIES AND TARIFF MODIFICATIONS IN COLOMBIA.

Valuable information on Colombian rubber and on cotton manufacture in the Republic is reproduced in this issue from reports forwarded to the Department of State of the United States by Consul I. A. MANNING, of Cartagena. The increase in rubber growing throughout the Republic is shown by the fact that for the year 1906 the shipments from Cartagena totaled 159,580 kilos, while in the first nine months of 1907, 136,680 kilos were exported. Not only are plantations of vast extent being established, but precautionary measures are being taken against the destruction of the wild trees.

Various modifications of the existing Colombian tariff as they became effective throughout the year 1907 are also published as of timely interest.

COSTA RICA'S SPECIAL ENVOY TO THE UNITED STATES.

In connection with his duties as one of the Delegates of Costa Rica to the Central American Peace Congress held in Washington during the closing months of 1907, Señor Don LUIS ANDERSON was also honored by appointment as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Costa Rica on a special mission to the United States. He was received in this capacity on November 12, 1907, and presented the cordial greetings of President GONZÂLEZ VÍQUEZ and of the Government and people of Costa Rica to President ROOSEVELT.

Special agricultural boards whose powers and duties are to be for the promotion and development of agriculture in the respective

Departments, have been ordered established by a Presidential decree of December 2, 1907, in Costa Rica, and it is desired to bring the industrial value of other native products up to the same plane as that now occupied by bananas.

In regard to this latter culture, United States Minister MERRY reports that owing to the nonacceptance by the large growing and shipping interests of the export duty of 1 cent recently placed on each bunch of bananas—the law having been enacted subject to such acceptance—the status of the industry remains as before, in so far as the export duty is concerned.

RESULTS OF THE CUBAN CENSUS.

The census of the Cuban Republic, taken in 1907, reports the total population as numbering 2,028,282, as compared with 1,572,845 in 1899, the Provinces of Havana and Santa Clara being the most populous. Immigration for the fiscal year 1906–7 shows a decrease as compared with the preceding year of 23,080 arrivals.

Customs receipts at the port of Havana during 1907 aggregated $20,005,048.12, a gain of $1,500,000 over 1906. Important measures for the sanitation of various municipalities and precautionary steps against yellow fever have been provided for by an appropriation of $350,000.

ECUADOR'S NATIONAL EXPOSITION.

In commemoration of the rising for independence in South America on August 10, 1809, a National Exposition is to be held at Quito on the 100th anniversary of that event. The decree providing for the celebration was issued by President ALFARO in October, 1907, and exhibits will cover not only the forestal, pastoral, agricultural, mining, railroad, and fishery resources of the country, but will also provide historical and artistic features of international interest, and prizes have been offered by the Government for articles dealing with patriotic and historical subjects. Arrangements have been made for the participation of other nations in the Exposition.

GUATEMALA'S TRADE AND OPPORTUNITIES.

The opening of Guatemala's interoceanic trade route from San José on the Pacific to Puerto Barrios on the Atlantic, scheduled for January 19, 1908, renders of great interest and value the pamphlet recently issued by Señor VICTOR AGUILAR PELÁEZ, Consul of the Republic in Liverpool and Manchester. To meet the newly awakened

interest in this section of Central America, the BULLETIN has reproduced in great part the pamphlet in reference, covering a résumé of trade and economic conditions as existant in 1906.

The entry of the first train arriving at the capital from Puerto Barrios was made the occasion of great display and in commemoration of the event an exposition of national industries was held. Special representatives of foreign nations participated in the attendant ceremonies. This railroad, which will greatly facilitate the transport of native products to the seaboard, has an extent of 269 miles, and forms a tangible evidence of the development of this progressive Republic.

ESTABLISHMENT OF A CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN HAITI.

To further the commercial, agricultural, industrial, and maritime interests of the Haitian Republic, a Chamber of Commerce has been established at Port au Prince, in accordance with a Presidential decree of November 30, 1907. An appropriation of $1,800 to meet the expenses of organization has been made and the President of the Republic named as honorary president. Not only will the organization disseminate information concerning native products and industries, but it will also serve as an intermediary for the local distribution of foreign data of value to the country.

INCREASED EXPORT TAX ON BANANAS IN HONDURAS.

To meet the demand for better wharfage accommodations and facilities for shipping bananas at the northern ports of Honduras, the Government has increased the export duty on each bunch of bananas from 2 to 3 *centavos*, part of the proceeds thereof to be applied to such improvements as may be deemed expedient.

MEXICO AS SEEN BY ITS MINISTER OF FINANCE.

The yearly issuance by LICENCIADO JOSÉ YVES LIMANTOUR, the famous Minister of Finance of the Mexican Republic, of his Treasury statement and review of the economic status of the country forms an epoch in Mexican annals. His report made to the National Congress on December 14, 1907, should be read by all persons desirous of a close understanding of Mexican affairs. A résumé covering the most salient points is made for this issue of the BULLETIN and shows the gratifying conditions prevailing throughout this important part of the Pan-American Union.

The Mexican trade report for the first quarter of the fiscal year 1907–8, shows increases of over $5,000,000, both in imports and exports of the Republic, and is the more satisfactory as for the corresponding periods of the two preceding fiscal years, a decline in exports was noted.

The improvements in progress and projected at the Atlantic and Pacific terminals of the Tehuantepec Railroad are exciting great interest among the promoters of trans-Isthmian traffic and it is proposed to make Salina Cruz and Coatzocoalcos rank with other world ports for the transshipment of merchandise.

MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT OF NICARAGUA.

The message addressed by President ZELAYA to the Nicaraguan Congress on December 1, 1907, is an important document, embodying the views of the Executive with regard to the late Peace Conference at Washington and the causes and results thereof.

The concession granted by the Government to Messrs. GUERRERO and MOREIRA for the exploitation of the rubber forests of the Republic for ten years from September 10, 1905, has been transferred to the Atlantic Industrial Company, which will carry on the work undertaken by the former concessionaires under governmental charter.

A new trade-mark law, promulgated on November 26, 1907, has important bearing upon industrial protection in Nicaragua and is designed for the protection of both foreign and local business.

CONSUL KELLOGG'S REPORT FROM COLON, PANAMA.

The report of United States Consul JAMES C. KELLOGG, of Colon, on the port of Bocas del Toro, shows that while imports at that place increased during the fiscal year 1907 as compared with the preceding year, export valuations declined. It is anticipated that the shipment of bananas to Europe, for which extensive preparation has been made in equipping steamers with refrigerating apparatus, will produce a contrary result in the present year. The United States is reported as leading other nations in the trade of the port.

A NATIONAL BANK FOR PARAGUAY.

The project has been presented to the Paraguayan Congress for the establishment of a mixed bank under Government authorization to be known as the Bank of the Republic, and capitalized at $20,000,000 gold. The various conditions of operation are shown in this issue of the BULLETIN.

NEW STEAMSHIP SERVICE BETWEEN NEW YORK AND CALLAO.

With the inauguration of a new steamship service between New York and Callao, via Panama, a great economic advance will be made in the intercourse of these two commercial sections. This enterprise under the National Steamship and Floating Dock Company of Callao, will, it is anticipated, be in full operation early in 1908, and in addition to being capitalized for $15,000,000, it is subsidized by the Peruvian Government for $1,500,000.

SALVADOR'S CUSTOMS REVENUES.

A decrease in the customs revenues of Salvador of $145,904.42 is to be noted in the latest figures to hand, showing $543,624.72 in the first quarter of 1907. The comparison is made with the corresponding period of 1906.

URUGUAY'S CUSTOMS VALUES.

Although the customs receipts of Uruguay show a slight decline in October, 1907, from those of the corresponding month of 1906, the total for the ten months' period ending October show a gain, the totals for the two years—January to October—being $11,271,871 and $11,006,639, respectively.

Important changes are embodied in the Uruguayan tax law for 1908, as submitted by the legislature to the Government. One of the provisions raises the tax on premiums of foreign insurance companies in the Republic from 3 to 7 per cent.

INCREASE OF IMPORT DUTIES IN VENEZUELA.

Various articles of food and domestic use have been made the subject of a surtax imposed by the Venezuelan Government by a decree of November 14, 1907. Other items are covered by tariff modifications of recent date.

BOOK NOTES.

MODERN ARGENTINA.

No work of recent issue is better qualified to meet the existing demand for general information concerning the countries of Latin America than that published by FRANCIS GRIFFITHS, London, 1907, under the title "Modern Argentina—the El Dorado of To-day," with

supplementary chapters on Uruguay and Chile. The author, W. H. KOEBEL, has carefully avoided all but the barest statements of statistics, and has prepared a thoroughly readable and entertaining account of conditions, both of town and camp, as encountered by an interested and inquiring traveler. He pays due tribute to the advanced position which the Republic is taking among the countries of the earth, and attributes this prominence, in its entirety, to the value and extent of the nation's "camp" products, animal and vegetable. In comparison therewith, he finds the few urban manufactories and industries practically insignificant. The commercial distributing center of the national products, Buenos Aires, is described as of imposing magnificence, with handsome boulevards, electric lighting and water works systems, palatial public buildings, and all the adornments and paraphernalia of a great city containing over 1,000,000 inhabitants. The produce market and the system of docks along the water front are among the astonishing developments of the modern city adapted to the growing requirements of the meat, wool, and grain trade of the country. Rosario, Bahia Blanca, and Rosario are all treated from their characteristic standpoints, and a charming account of the fashionable seaside resort, Mar del Plata, is furnished.

The distinctively Argentine stamp of the volume is, however, to be found in the chapters devoted to life in the "camp." The daily routine and habits of the "gaucho" are set forth with picturesque details, while the garnering of the great crops of wheat, maize, linseed, and alfalfa, the breeding and care of stock, and other camp topics, are narrated with charm and clearness. Mendoza and its contiguous vineyards, the great Chaco with its timber wealth, the mines of Famatina, are all treated with interest, while special appreciation of the railway systems of the country is recorded. Of the latter, the writer had ample opportunity to judge in his trip from Buenos Aires across the Argentine Republic to Mendoza and Las Cuevas. At this point the comfortable train was exchanged for the journey on mule back over the mountains, on the summit of which stands the heroic figure of Christ, the symbol of the Argentine and Chilean peace compact. The downward grade on the Chilean side carries the traveler to Los Andes, the terminus of the Transandine line on the Pacific side, from which point the journey to Valparaiso is continued by rail. The sections devoted to Chile and Uruguay, although quite limited, are characterized by the same clearness of description and practical value as the preceding chapters. The great Liebig factory of beef products and extracts at Fray Bentos is noted as quite apart from the ordinary commercial enterprise of its kind by reason of the almost idyllic nature of its position and environs.

MEXICO OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY.

Valuable as a book of reference, and more than ordinarily interesting on its literary side, the recent work of PERCY F. MARTIN, F. R. G. S., entitled "Mexico of the Twentieth Century," deserves to be in the hands of all persons seeking information concerning this Republic. Published by EDWARD ARNOLD, London, 1907, it is issued in two volumes, the first of which is devoted to a general consideration of existent conditions; sketches of public men and institutions and such historical information as may conduce to an intelligent reading. Volume II covers a descriptive account of every State composing the United Mexican States, detailing the resources and possibilities of each. Following this section, adequate account is given of the various native industries and products and the remarkable progress made in all branches of economic development under present conditions. Glowing reference is made to the fame and ability of President DIAZ, whom the author ranks among the great men of all ages. The influence and predominance of United States enterprise throughout the country are emphasized, and regret is expressed that Great Britain should have allowed to pass from her sphere of commercial influence one of the finest and safest markets in the whole world. To the history of mining the final chapters of the book are devoted, though the author frankly states that so enormous a subject requires not one volume alone, but many volumes. The laws governing this industry have been pronounced the most enlightened and most reasonable in the world and the total output of gold, silver, and copper from the time of the Spanish workings to date is estimated at $3,000,000,000.

THE DARIEN COMPANY OF THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY.

For the purpose of recording the life work of a Scotsman who lived two centuries ago, an interesting volume has been prepared covering the record of the formation, floating, and final disruption of the first "Darien Company," and the relations to it of its projector, WILLIAM PATERSON. The act creating the "Company of Scotland trading to Africa and the Indies" became a law on June 26, 1695, passing the Scottish Parliament and being touched with the scepter by His Majesty's Commissioner. The enterprise as projected purposed that a certain part of the Isthmus of Darien, in Central America, should be the entrepôt for the exchange of Western and Eastern commodities; the inauguration of universal free trade and the concentration of the commerce of the globe on the Isthmus of Darien being the dominant ideas of PATERSON'S scheme. On the 26th of July, 1698, departure was made from Leith, with destination for

the Isthmus, and on November 3, the first expedition cast anchor at Golden Island, in the bay of Acla, near the Gulf of Darien. The journal kept by a member of the party recounts the incidents of the voyage and of the subsequent establishment of the colony, while a report made by WILLIAM PATERSON himself, who accompanied the expedition in a private capacity, furnishes abundant evidence of the shrewd business sense of the original promoter of the enterprise. The colony was abandoned in June, 1699, and later expeditions met with no better success, but so great was the interest and enthusiasm which prevailed throughout Scotland with regard to the scheme that on March 25, 1707, complete restitution was made by the Scottish Parliament to the subscribers of the ill-fated company.

PANAMA CANAL REPORT FOR 1907.

The report of the Isthmian Canal Commission for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1907, signed by Lieut. Col. GEORGE W. GOETHALS, Chairman of the Commission and chief engineer of the works, furnishes a record of ceaseless activity, of work accomplished, and of difficulties overcome. A considerable part of the report is occupied with a discussion of the relative advantages and the reverse of governmental or contract administration of the enterprise, with the conclusion that the work can be done better, more cheaply, and more quickly by the Government. Detailed particulars are given of the results of the working of sixty-three steam shovels, some of which weigh 95 tons. These matters are of importance as having direct bearing upon the length of time required for the completion of the canal, and show that if a sufficient number of shovels are put to work in the Culebra cut the excavation for a sea-level canal can be made inside of ten years, which is a period much less than that estimated by the Board of Consulting Engineers. The measures taken for the sanitation of the Isthmus and for the housing and feeding of the 23,327 members of the classified force at work are shown to be adequate and satisfactory, while the report on the geology of the Isthmus of Panama has been practically confined to such matters as have a direct bearing on the constructive work. The various subjects treated are finely illustrated by 147 pictures, maps, and profiles.

COMMUNICATION IN BRAZIL.

The bulk of the report presented by the Brazilian Minister of Public Works to the President of the Republic covering the year 1906 is devoted to the railway systems of the country. The extent of line in operation is given as 17,242.457 kilometers (kilometer = 0.62137 mile), besides 3,042.678 under construction and 6,683.017 surveyed and

approved by the Government for construction. Since the publication of the report, a syndicate of Americans, Canadians, and French have acquired control of three great systems of railway to the north, south, and west of Brazil, which will greatly influence the possibilities of communication with the adjacent countries. Most of the Brazilian lines are either directly or indirectly under Government supervision, rates and salaries being subject to governmental approval. The various navigation companies of the Republic are included under the head of "Industries," and special sections are devoted to port works and credits and accounts.

FRENCH INTERESTS IN COLOMBIA.

The Columbus Memorial Library has just received the first number of a monthly review appearing in December, devoted to the interests of Colombia. The editor and director is Mr. HENRY JALHAY, the distinguished consul of Colombia at Brussels, where the review is published in French under the title of "*La Colombie.*" Mr. JALHAY hopes to further the development of the commercial relations of Colombia by the publication of correct information relating to the resources of the country, and to call attention to the numerous industries which need to be established, and to which the Colombian Government gives its sanction and material aid. The review will only appear once a month at first, but the editor hopes later to increase its size and to publish it semiweekly.

WITH SPEAKER CANNON THROUGH THE TROPICS.

A chatty narrative of a trip through the Tropics has been received by the Columbus Memorial Library from the pen of J. HAMPTON MOORE, Member of Congress from the Third district of Pennsylvania, who accompanied Speaker CANNON on his memorable cruise among the West Indies and through portions of Venezuela and Panama. While no attempt is made by the writer to present a handbook of the places visited, the comments on local institutions and surroundings show a keen realization of the problems of colonial possessions.

PERU IN 1906.

In "Peru in 1906" a model volume has been issued through the authorization of President PARDO covering the history, geography, and present economic status of the Peruvian Republic. The writer, Mr. ALEJANDRO GARLAND, is a member of the Lima Geographical Society, and brings to his work a thorough acquaintance with his

subject. The fourth section covers up-to-date information regarding agriculture, mining, manufactures, trade, means of communication, currency systems, banking, finance, and the native press, all demonstrating the peaceful progress attained during the last ten years.

PARAGUAYAN SKETCHES.

A series of interesting papers has been prepared by ex-President CECILIO BAEZ, of Paraguay, under the title "*Cuadros Históricos y Descriptivos del Paraguay*" (Historical and Descriptive Sketches of Paraguay). Commencing with a description of the aboriginal race, *los Guaraníes*, their manners and customs, he follows the line of Paraguayan history with accounts of the various epochs and the principal actors therein, the whole forming a valuable addition to the information concerning a comparatively little-known country.

THE UNITED STATES FLEET AT RIO DE JANEIRO.

In view of the public interest in the presence of the battle ship fleet of the United States in Brazilian waters and of the importance of the speeches made and messages exchanged between the Brazilian and United States authorities, the BULLETIN reproduces a portion of them as matters of record.

Upon the arrival of the fleet at Rio de Janeiro on January 13 the Brazilian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. RIO BRANCO, cabled the announcement to the Ambassador of Brazil in Washington, stating:

"Preparations for the celebration began when the Monroe Palace where the Pan-American Conference took place was seen flying the Brazilian flag surrounded by four American flags."

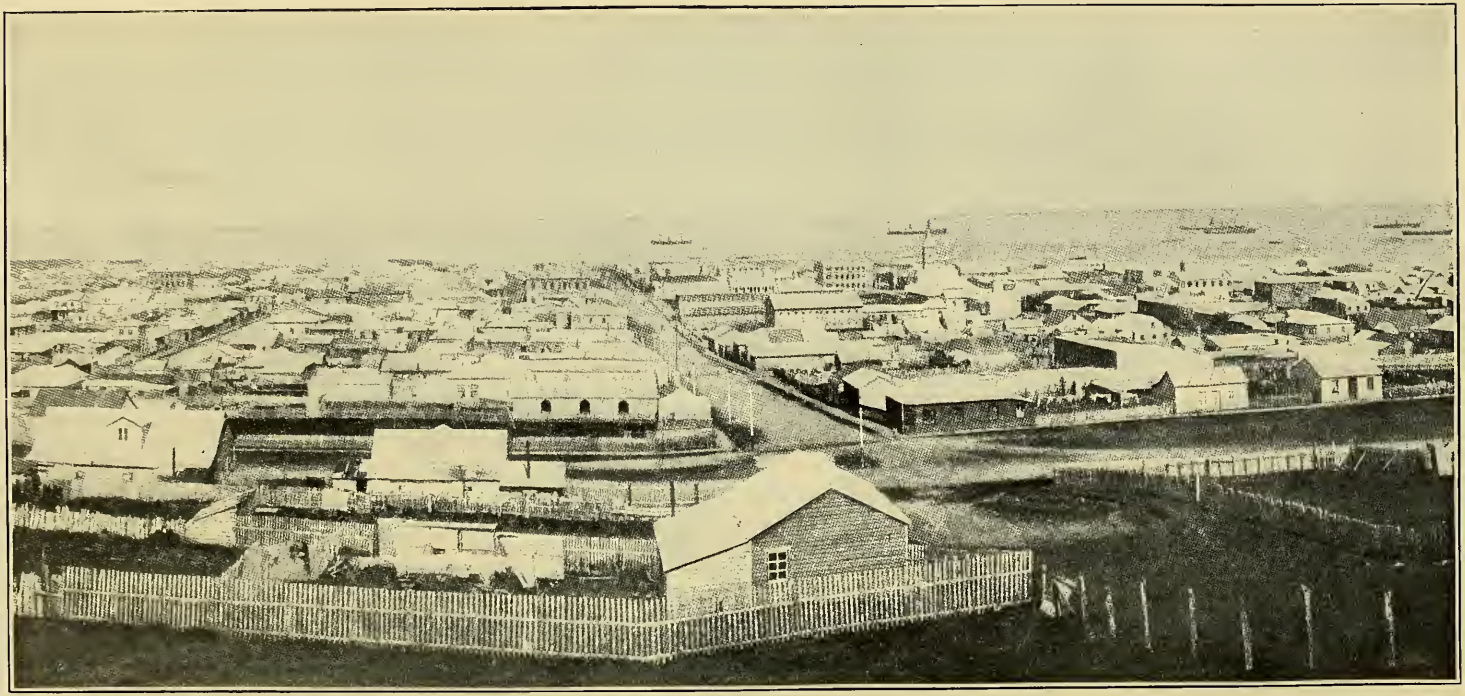
Subsequently, the following courtesies were exchanged by cable between the Governments at Rio de Janeiro and Washington.

TELEGRAM OF PRESIDENT AFFONSO PENNA TO PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT.

On January 14 President AFFONSO PENNA, of Brazil, sent the following personal message to the President of the United States:

"This afternoon I had the great pleasure of receiving and becoming personally acquainted with the admirals and captains of the American fleet en route to the Pacific Ocean.

"I congratulate you on the safe arrival of so powerful and well-drilled a fleet at Rio de Janeiro, and I take keen pleasure in informing you that the people of our capital spontaneously and enthusiastically joined the Brazilian naval authorities, from the very first moment,



PUNTA ARENAS, CHILE, SOUTHERNMOST CITY OF THE WORLD, WHERE UNITED STATES FLEET MADE ITS THIRD STOP AROUND SOUTH AMERICA.

in the demonstrations of fraternity and friendship toward the American sailors and the great Republic of the north, for whose continued prosperity and glory all Brazil utters the most cordial wishes.

"AFFONSO PENNA."

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT TO PRESIDENT PENNA OF BRAZIL.

In reply President Roosevelt cabled as follows:

"JANUARY 15, 1908.

"I thank you for the kind message which you were so good as to send me upon the arrival of the American fleet at Rio. It has given me and will give to the American people the liveliest satisfaction. We are all very sensible of the courtesy and distinguished hospitality with which the Government and people of Brazil have received our officers and sailors. The war ships of America exist for no other purpose than to protect peace against possible aggression and justice against possible oppression. As between the United States and Brazil these ships are not men of war, but are messengers of friendship and good will commissioned to celebrate with you the long-continued and never to be broken amity and mutual helpfulness of the two great Republics."

TOAST OF PRESIDENT AFFONSO PENNA.

At the luncheon tendered the officers of the United States fleet on the part of the Brazilian Government on January 15, President AFFONSO PENNA gave the following toast to the officers assembled for the occasion:

"The warm and brotherly welcome which the people of the capital of the Republic have given to the powerful American fleet now with us will have proved to all how deep and sincere is the sympathy and friendship that moves the Brazilian nation with regard to her great and prosperous sister of North America.

"These are not ephemeral and occasional sentiments. They date from the birth of our nationality, and are ever growing stronger, binding more closely the ties of friendship and economic relations of the two countries.

"When the South American nations proclaimed their independence, in that first moment of doubt and vacillation as to the future, the encouragement of the young American Republic came to us with the solemn declaration of indestructible solidarity among the nations of the New World, issued by the voice of her great President, MONROE, whose name shines in history as that of a statesman of great breadth of view and rare political foresight.

"The long and difficult cruise of the powerful fleet to which Brazil is host to-day, its mission of going around the American Continent,

constitutes a new and magnificent demonstration of the unsurpassable vigor and extraordinary energy of the great nation, friend of Brazil.

"With my ardent and sincere wishes that the navigation of the friendly fleet continue to be an unbroken record of favorable circumstances, I drink to the health of the glorious American Navy, desiring the prosperity of the United States of America and the personal welfare of her eminent chief and great statesman, THEODORE ROOSEVELT."

The following notable messages were also exchanged between the State Department of the United States and the American Ambassador to Brazil:

THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR TO BRAZIL, TO SECRETARY ROOT.

"JANUARY 15, 1908.

"Reception of the fleet by press and people gratifying. Pro-American feeling everywhere in evidence. Official programme elaborate. President of Brazil cordially receives and dines officers. American and Brazilian flags fly together over Monroe Palace, in which, on the twentieth RIO BRANCO tenders fleet banquet, six hundred covers, with RUY BARBOSA chief speaker."

SECRETARY ROOT TO THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR TO BRAZIL.

"JANUARY 15, 1908.

"Express to Baron RIO BRANCO my hearty appreciation and that of the American Government, of the cordial hospitality with which the President and Government of Brazil are receiving the American fleet. It is delightful to feel that the same friendship which was so generously extended to me in 1906 remains undiminished and is exhibited to my countrymen in 1908. The American people will be very appreciative of all the kindness which is being shown to their sailors. My kind personal regards to Baron RIO BRANCO. President ROOSEVELT has telegraphed direct to President PENNA."

FIRST PAN-AMERICAN SCIENTIFIC CONGRESS.

The first Latin-American Scientific Congress was held at Buenos Aires, the capital of the Argentine Republic, in 1898. The second session of the Congress was held at Montevideo, the capital of Uruguay, in 1901, and the third at Rio de Janeiro, the capital of Brazil, in 1905.

It has now been determined to hold the fourth session at Santiago during the first ten days of December, 1908, and invitations to this effect have been issued by the Chilean Government.

It has been further determined to extend the scope of the Congress so as to include all the American Republics, and to this end the Chilean Government has extended an official invitation to the Government of the United States. At the same time, the name of the Congress has been changed from the Fourth Latin-American Scientific Congress to the First Pan-American Scientific Congress, in keeping with its enlarged representation. Below is given the message of President ROOSEVELT transmitting to the United States Congress the report of Secretary ROOT in regard to the matter. The President in his message heartily approves the recommendation of the Secretary of State for an appropriation sufficient for a suitable representation from the United States.

MESSAGE OF PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT.

"*To the Senate and House of Representatives:*

"I transmit herewith for the consideration of the respective Houses of the Congress a report of the Secretary of State representing the appropriateness of early action, in order that in response to the invitation of the Government of Chile the Government of the United States may be enabled fittingly to be represented at the First Pan-American Scientific Congress, to be held at Santiago, Chile, the first ten days of December, 1908.

"The recommendations of this report have my hearty approval, and I hope that the Congress will see fit to make timely provision to enable the Government to respond appropriately to the invitation of the Government of Chile in the sending of delegates to a Congress which can not fail to be of great interest and importance to the Governments and peoples of all the American Republics.

"THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

"THE WHITE HOUSE, *December 21, 1907.*"

"DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
" *Washington, December 19, 1907.*

"The PRESIDENT:

"The Government of Chile has invited the Government of the United States to join in and to be represented by delegates at the Pan-American Scientific Congress, which is to assemble under its auspices at the capital city of Santiago during the ten days beginning December 1, 1908. The work of the Congress will comprehend nine sections, devoted, respectively, to pure and applied mathematics, physical sciences, natural sciences, engineering, medicine and hygiene, anthropology, jurisprudence and sociology, pedagogics, and agriculture and animal industry.

"Latin-American Scientific Congresses were held in 1898 at Buenos Aires, in 1901 at Montevideo, and in 1905 at Rio de Janeiro. Growing out of these previous conferences the Congress of 1908 will be for the

first time Pan-American. It will study and discuss many great subjects in which all the American Republics have in common special interests; and its aim is to bring together the best scientific thought of this Hemisphere for the scrutiny of many distinctively American problems and for an interchange of experience and of views which should be of great value to all the nations concerned.

"It is therefore eminently appropriate that the United States should be adequately represented at this important First Pan-American Scientific Congress and should embrace this opportunity for cooperation in scientific research with the representatives of the other American Republics. It is worthy of consideration that, in addition to the purely scientific interests to be subserved by such a Congress and in addition to the advantages arising from an interchange of thought and the intercourse of the scientific men of the American countries and the good understanding and friendly relations which will be promoted, there are many specific relations arising from the very close intercourse between the United States and many Latin-American countries, incident to our expanding trade, our extending investments, and the construction of the Panama Canal, which make a common understanding and free exchange of opinion upon scientific subjects of great practical importance.

"To make our representation possible I have the honor to recommend that the Congress be asked to appropriate the sum of $35,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, to enable the United States to send a number of delegates corresponding to the number of sections into which the Congress is to be divided, together with a secretary and disbursing officer, and to pay other necessary expenses.

"Inasmuch as it is desired that all communications or scientific works to be presented to the Congress be received before September 30, it is much to be hoped that provision for the participation of this Government may be made at an early date and that the appropriation be made immediately available.

"Respectfully submitted.

"ELIHU ROOT."

THE THIRD INTERNATIONAL SANITARY CONVENTION.

The following is the report made to Mr. JOHN BARRETT, Director of the International Bureau of the American Republics, by Mr. FRANCISCO J. YANES, Secretary of the Bureau, who attended, as the Bureau's special representative, the Third International Sanitary Convention, which met in the City of Mexico in December, 1907.

"WASHINGTON, D. C., *December 31, 1907.*

"SIR: I beg to submit herewith a report relative to the Third International Sanitary Convention, held in the City of Mexico from December 2 to 7, 1907, which I attended in the capacity of special representative of the International Bureau of the American Republics, pursuant to your instructions of November 27, 1907.

"The call to the Third International Sanitary Convention and provisional programme were transmitted by the International Bureau of the American Republics to the several Governments of the Union through the members of the Governing Board on July 11, 1907, and in accordance with said call and programme the Third International Sanitary Convention was called to order at 10 a. m. on Tuesday, December 2, in the Grand Salon of the Department of Finance, National Palace. At this opening session addresses of welcome were made by Gen. RAMÓN CORRAL, Vice-President of the Republic and Secretary of the Interior, and by Dr. EDUARDO LICEAGA, President of the Convention, as well as chairman of the Mexican Delegation. All delegations present made short and appropriate replies.

"At the opening session the following delegates were present:

"Brazil: Dr. OSWALDO DE GONÇALVEZ CRUZ.

"Colombia: Dr. RICARDO GUTIÉRRES LEE, Dr. GENARO PAYAN.

"Costa Rica: Dr. JUAN JOSÉ ULLOA.

"Cuba: Dr. HUGO ROBERTS, Dr. JUAN GUITERAS.

"Chile: Dr. ERNESTO SOZA, Dr. PEDRO LAUTARO FERRER.

"Ecuador: Dr. JUAN HORACIO ESTEVES.

"Guatemala: Dr. SALVADOR ORTEGA, Dr. JOSÉ AZURDIA.

"Honduras: Dr. LUIS LAZO ARRIAGA.

"Mexico: Dr. E. LICÉAGA, Lic. JOSÉ ALGARA, Ing. H. ELGUERO.

"Nicaragua: Dr. GREGORIO MENDIZÁBAL.

"Salvador: Dr. RODOLFO B. GONZÁLES.

"United States: Dr. WALTER WYMAN, Dr. R. H. VON EZDORF, Dr. P. T. STRAUB, Dr. JAMES GATEWOOD, Dr. CHARLES HARRINGTON, Dr. W. G. OWEN, Dr. RHETT GOODE, Dr. H. L. E. JOHNSON.

"Dr. E. FERNANDEZ ESPIRO, of Uruguay, due to delays during his trip, arrived toward the end of the Convention.

"The following vice-presidents were appointed from the several delegations: Dr. WALTER WYMAN, United States; Dr. OSWALDO DE GONÇALVEZ CRUZ, Brazil; Dr. JUAN JOSÉ ULLOA, Costa Rica; Dr. JUAN GUITERAS, Cuba; Dr. ERNESTO SOZA, Chile; Dr. SALVADOR ORTEGA, Guatemala; Dr. L. LAZO ARRIAGA, Honduras; and Dr. GREGORIO MENDIZÁBAL, Nicaragua.

"The following committees were appointed: Committee on Credentials, Advisory Committee, Committee on Yellow Fever, Committee on Bubonic Plague, Committee on Trachoma, Beriberi, and Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis, and Committee on Tuberculosis.

"Owing to unavoidable delay caused by several freight wrecks, I did not arrive in Mexico City until the morning of December 3, so that I was not present at the opening session.

"Upon presentation of my credentials to Dr. EDUARDO LICEAGA, President of the Convention, and at the motion of Surg. Gen. WALTER WYMAN, which was unanimously approved, the special representative of the Bureau was granted the privilege of the floor. In thanking the Convention for their courteous welcome, I took occasion to state the great interest the International Bureau of the American Republics took in their humane and altruistic work, and that as the special representative of this Institution I was the bearer of cordial greetings, not only of the Governing Board, but also of the Director of the Bureau, who had personally intrusted me with the pleasant duty of tendering the Convention the assurance of his good wishes. The Director, I further said, would have come to personally greet the Convention but for the fact that at that very moment another event of world-wide importance was taking place under our roof—the Central American Peace Conference—making it impossible for the Director to leave. I pointed out the fact that this was a day of great satisfaction to the Bureau, as all of Latin America seemed to be engaged in great and noble work; on the one hand, the Central American Republics were adjusting their differences in Washington and building up the foundation of their future welfare, while on the other, the large majority of the Latin-American countries met in the hospitable City of Mexico to work for the common cause of humanity.

"The programme prepared by the Mexican Delegation contained, besides the business of the Convention, a reception by His Excellency General DIAZ, President of the Republic; visits to the new post-office building, the penitentiary, castle of Chapultepec, board of health, disinfection plant, city waterworks and Xochimilco, new suburbs called 'Colonias,' general hospital, and sewer-flushing pumping station; concert, dinners, and other hospitalities.

"On the day of the last meeting, December 7, 1907, the Advisory Committee, to which all motions requiring important action were submitted, reported for adoption by the Convention the following recommendations:

"Adherence on the part of Brazil, Colombia, and Uruguay to the Sanitary Convention of Washington.

"Codification of all the sanitary laws and regulations of all the Governments represented at the Convention, to be transmitted to the International Sanitary Bureau at Washington upon completion of work.

"To authorize the International Sanitary Bureau of Washington to establish relations with the '*Bureau International Sanitaire*' of Paris, as recommended by the Third International American Conference of Rio de Janeiro.

"To direct the Secretary of the Convention to include in the publication of the proceedings of the Third International Sanitary Convention a summary of all resolutions adopted by the First and Second Conventions, held in Washington.

"To request all the governments of America to make compulsory vaccination against smallpox.

"To urge upon the Governments represented at the Convention the convenience of declaring free from all duties and taxes, quinine, fine wire mosquito netting, mosquito bars, and other material to be used as a protection against mosquitoes, and crude petroleum.

"To recommend the several Governments to establish dispensaries at certain given points for the free distribution to the poor of quinine under certain conditions.

"To recommend an active propaganda in schools, factories, barracks, and other public places for the purpose of teaching the people the etiology, prophylaxis and treatment of malaria.

"To recommend the publication of pamphlets for free distribution containing briefly described, and in a simple and practical form, facts concerning malarial fevers.

"To recommend that the maritime authorities include in their public health reports mortality due to malarial fevers.

"To recommend the several Governments to prohibit immigration of persons suffering from trachoma or beriberi.

"To recommend the adoption of series of suggestions for the prevention of tuberculosis in steamships and railway cars.

"To recommend the nationalization and centralization of sanitary authorities.

"Other resolutions, directly concerning the relations of the International Bureau of the American Republics with the Sanitary Convention, were: One by Doctor LICEAGA, to the effect that besides the calls for the Sanitary Conventions being issued by the International Bureau of the American Republics, the country where the meeting is to take place also send invitations. Surgeon-General WYMAN, United States, offered a resolution requesting that desk room should be provided by the International Bureau of the American Republics for a special clerk to attend to the matters relating to the Sanitary Conventions.

"Doctor ULLOA, of Costa Rica, also made a motion requesting all delegates present to send one or two copies of all their reports or any other work to the Columbus Memorial Library of the International Bureau of the American Republics.

"In establishing the Sanitary Information Bureau at Montevideo, it was decided that in order to facilitate work Brazil, the Argentine Republic, Paraguay, Chile, and Peru should communicate directly

with Montevideo, and the rest of the Latin-American countries with the Sanitary Bureau of Washington.

"Although Brazil, Chile, and Uruguay had already shown their readiness to welcome at their respective capitals the Fourth International Sanitary Convention, when the time for determining the next place of meeting came, Doctor CRUZ, of Brazil, moved that San José de Costa Rica be selected, this being done by acclamation. December, 1909, was then determined upon as the most convenient date to meet, and Dr. JUAN J. ULLOA, of Costa Rica, was unanimously elected President of the next Convention.

"At the motion of Dr. FERNANDEZ ESPIRO, of Uruguay, the International Sanitary Bureau officials were unanimously reelected for the next term.

"After short farewell speeches by all the delegates and the President, Doctor LICEAGA, the Convention adjourned until 1909.

"The reports and transactions of the Convention are under final preparation by Dr. JUAN J. ULLOA, of Costa Rica, Secretary of the Convention, who will soon transmit them to the International Bureau of the American Republics for publication and distribution.

"Before closing this brief report on the work accomplished by the Third International Sanitary Convention, I desire to call special attention to the enormous progress made in Mexico in establishing improved sanitary conditions in their principal cities and ports. The Federal Government has appropriated the following sums to be applied to the sanitation of the country's capital and principal ports:

	Mexican.
Mexico City	$28, 517, 900. 17
Port of Manzanillo	7, 882, 760. 00
Port of Veracruz	3, 864, 493. 94
Port of Tampico	2, 999, 779. 73
Port of Salina Cruz	1, 190, 313. 30
Puerto Mexico (Coatzacoalcos)	1, 276, 114. 50
Total	45, 831, 361. 64

"Out of this appropriation there is still available the amount of $801,913.06.

"It may be said that the work of sanitation in the city of Mexico has involved the following expenses:

	Mexican.
Drainage works of the valley of Mexico	$15, 967, 778. 17
Sanitation work of the city	8, 210, 138. 25
Waterworks	4, 339, 983. 75
Total	28, 511, 900. 17

"Another point also deserving special mention is the interest shown by all, from the highest Mexican authorities to private individuals, in the work of the International Bureau of the American Republics.

There seems to be a general feeling among all that the Bureau has at last entered into a real era of reorganization since the Third Pan-American Conference met at Rio de Janeiro and enlarged the Bureau's scope, both commercially and from a moral and influential standpoint, and finally since the Bureau is soon to have its own home. The BULLETIN, I found, was read and appreciated, and its improved condition favorably commented upon.

"Respectfully submitted.

"FRANCISCO J. YÁNES.

"Hon. JOHN BARRETT,

"*Director, International Bureau of the American Republics, Washington, D. C.*"

SIGNIFICANT LETTER OF PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT.

Prof. L. S. ROWE, of the University of Pennsylvania, who was one of the delegates from the United States to the Third International American Conference meeting in Rio Janeiro in July, 1906, after the termination of the Conference, made an extended tour of South America which lasted for a year and a half.

Since returning from South America, Professor ROWE has conferred with the President of the United States on the objects and results of his tour, and in particular concerning the plans which he has formulated for the cultivation of closer intellectual relations between the United States and the sister Republics of the south. The BULLETIN is enabled to publish the following letter of approval from President ROOSEVELT to Professor ROWE:

"MY DEAR DOCTOR ROWE: I have been deeply interested in going over with you the results of your trip through South America and the various plans which you have in mind for fostering closer intellectual relations between the northern and the southern sections of the Continent. I deem it most important that in addition to the friendly relations existing between the Governments of the American Republics, close personal ties should be formed between the leaders of thought in these Republics. Such personal relations strongly tend to destroy the foolish prejudices and misconceptions that arise out of lack of knowledge of one another. In this Western Hemisphere, each of our Republics can both learn and teach when brought into touch with her sister Republics.

"I know of no agencies better adapted to the accomplishment of this great purpose than the universities of the American Continent. There are many economic, social, and industrial problems—not to speak of others more purely scientific—that are distinctively American in character and continental in scope. Through the cooperation of the stu-

dents and investigators of our different nations the accumulated experience of this hemisphere can be brought to bear on these problems, and their successful solution thereby rendered more probable. The community of thought and action thus aroused will also serve a larger patriotic service in binding together more and more closely all the peoples of this Western Hemisphere.

"I heartily wish all success to this movement.

"Sincerely, yours,

"THEODORE ROOSEVELT."

THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON TUBERCULOSIS

The International Congress on Tuberculosis will be held in Washington between September 21 and October 12, 1908.

Active preparations for the Congress are being made throughout the United States and in a large number of foreign countries. At this time national committees have been organized for France, Germany, Sweden, Austria, Holland, Greece, Bulgaria, Cuba, Venezuela, Brazil, and Costa Rica. The French committee, under the presidency of Dr. LOUIS LANDOUZY, of the medical faculty of the University of Paris, consists of over three hundred prominent French physicians.

Dr. A. HERRERA VEGAS, the chairman of the Venezuelan committee, is president of the Venezuelan Antituberculosis League, and a member of the National Academy of Medicine at Caracas; Dr. P. ACOSTA ORTIZ, the vice-president, is a director of the hospital at Vargas, and Dr. L. RAZETTI, another member of the committee, is vice-rector of the University of Venezuela, and permanent secretary of the National Academy of Medicine.

All of the members of Brazilian committee are actively identified with the antituberculosis movement in that country. The committee includes Dr. J. J. AZEVEDO LIMA, of Rio Janeiro, president of the Brazilian Antituberculosis League; Dr. OSWALDO CRUZ, director-general of the Department of Public Health; Dr. J. J. SEABRA, and Dr. CYPRIANO DE FREITAS, of Rio de Janeiro.

The president of the Cuban committee is Doctor GUITERAS, formerly professor of pathology in the University of Pennsylvania, and now at the University of Havana. Dr. J. L. JACOBSEN, the vice-president, is president of the Cuban Antituberculosis League. The secretary is Dr. M. G. LEBREDO, of Habana. Two well-known members of this committee are Dr. ARISTIDES AGRAMONTE, the last surviving member of the famous yellow fever commission of the United States Army, and Dr. CARLOS J. FINLAY, who was recently awarded

the Mary McKinsley medal by the Liverpool Association for the Study of Tropical Diseases.

The Costa Rican committee has named Dr. Luis P. Jimenez chairman, and Dr. Teodoro Picado, of San Jose, secretary. Other members are Dr. Teodoro Prestinary, Dr. Benjamin Hernandez and Dr. Marcos Zuñiga, all of San Jose.

THE PRESENT CONDITION OF RUBBER CULTURE.

The valuable paper read by Dr. Pehr Olsson-Seffer, before the first meeting of the Mexican Rubber Planters' Association on October 9, 1907, in the city of Mexico, reviews in brief the development and present condition of the rubber-planting industry, with special reference to the commercial production of the plant in Mexico.

The greater part of the article in reference is reproduced as having a general industrial importance.

DOCTOR OLSSON-SEFFER'S REPORT.

"Universal interest is now manifested in regard to this industry. The rapidly increasing demand for rubber, a commodity so closely connected with electricity and many other modern inventions, has called forth the question, whether the world's market can be supplied from the natural sources of wild rubber which have hitherto been sufficient, or whether cultivation has to be resorted to.

"The consensus of opinion is that although there has been a steady growth of the output of raw rubber, and although the rate of production so far has shown no decline, we are rapidly approaching the narrowing limits of the natural rubber supply.

RUBBER IN BRAZIL.

"It is generally known that in Brazil, whence the largest amount of rubber has been obtained, the rubber collectors have to go farther and farther into the interior every year for their supply. With the prevailing reckless method of gathering, the rubber trees are gradually being exterminated. Naturally the cost of collecting is thus increasing, and it is to be observed that the extraordinary high prices have not greatly stimulated the production. This applies not only to the Amazon Valley, but more or less to all countries producing wild rubber. Very little has been done and very little can be done to stop this destruction of the natural rubber forests. The natives can not be taught to consider the necessity of saving the trees for a coming year. Their sole object is to obtain as large an amount of rubber as possible for the time being.

"In some rubber-producing countries steps have been taken toward replanting the natural rubber forest. Most notable is the decree passed by the Government of the Kongo Free State on January 5, 1899, in which it is regulated that—

"'In all the forests of the territory rubber trees shall be planted every year to a number of not less than 150 for every ton of rubber gathered during the same period. The agents of the State in those forests where the State has not given up the exploitation of rubber, and the private owners and concessionaires of all the forests where the State has given it up, whether by decrees of October 30, 1892, or by the granting of special concessions, are expected to form and keep up these plantations, conforming to the conditions specified in the present decree.'

"Three years later the Kongo Government issued a new decree increasing the number of plants to be replanted per ton of rubber collected. The production on the Amazon and the Kongo has so far not given any sign of decline, but it is certain that the natural supply has not increased. We have, on the other hand, instances where a rapid decline in the output is taking place.

"In Colombia the export of rubber has been diminishing for the last thirty years, and from Lagos a marked decrease is noticeable for the last decade.

"We are thus confronted with the following situation: while the consumption of rubber is increasing at an accelerating rate, the natural supply, though enormous, is not augmenting, in spite of the fact that new rubber-producing plants are discovered and new fields are being exploited.

"It seems safe to conclude that the requirements of modern life will not permit the demand for rubber to become diminished. The point is whether the supply will be altogether unequal to this demand. Varying opinions are expressed in this regard. Some maintain that the natural propagation of the rubber tree is sufficient to keep the supply up to its natural limits. There is, however, no evidence at hand to show that such a statement was based on true facts or on a right understanding of the situation. Others hold that the natural sources of wild rubber are rapidly being exhausted. Such an assertion is more logical, but even here we lack sufficient knowledge to be able to form a positively correct opinion. It may be safer to say that the limit of production will soon be reached, if we are not so far already, and if the demand is growing in the same proportion as hitherto, there must come a shortage in the supply.

"The prices have been steadily advancing for the last ten years and longer. It is possible that some of the rise in value is due to the general prosperity, which has caused an increase in the value of almost

all raw material. But it is not likely that even a financial or industrial panic would very materially influence the rubber market.

"Ever since CHARLES GOODYEAR'S discovery rendered rubber of practical use to mankind the tropical forests have been scoured by the natives and white men searching for rubber-producing trees. In Central America the indigenous rubber tree, "Castilla elástica," Cervantes, and related species have been the object of diligent search and subsequent destructive treatment. The destruction of the wild trees is usually given as the strongest argument in favor of rubber culture. I doubt if this is the *raison d'être* of rubber culture.

"Very few business men go into business from fear. Nor is rubber planting a matter of philanthropy. We do not plant rubber because we know that the supply from previous sources will one day become exhausted and humanity needs rubber for industrial purposes. We plant rubber because we have every reason to believe that it is a profitable industry. We plant rubber simply for the sake of profit and not for any other reasons. Is, then, rubber culture, after all, a profitable industry? There are many who say no, but those who have investigated the matter and most of those who have invested in rubber that has been taken care of properly know of a certainty that it is not only profitable, but very profitable. It has been claimed that it is impossible to cultivate the rubber tree. There is no necessity to refute such a statement. How it has been able to gain credence is difficult to understand. It shows a complete ignorance in regard to agriculture. In the history of human progress there is not a single instance where domestication of a plant has not been possible. There is, of course, a great difference in different plants, but by employing proper methods we have been able to overcome the greatest difficulties. As regards the rubber tree, there are hardly any plants that are better adapted for cultivation.

"The many conflicting statements as to the commercial feasibility of rubber planting have been cleared up now and again by disinterested parties, who have devoted much time to the study of this question in all its details. There are still those who are doubtful, either on account of personal failure in the undertaking or because they have entertained preconceived notions upon the question and are not willing to admit that their conclusions are wrong. Observations extended over a somewhat wide field covering most countries where rubber is planted have given me conclusive evidence that rubber when properly cultivated is not only a possibility but a decided commercial success. Anyone who devotes intelligent attention to this question can not fail to find that when he acquires more concrete knowledge about the matter there are actual results at hand which are indisputable and which show beyond a shadow of doubt that the rubber-planting industry is a profitable venture.

"The thousands of trees now planted and the hundreds of plantations producing rubber on a commercial scale demonstrate that rubber culture is an industry which has come to stay. Fears are expressed that we will have an overproduction of rubber if the planting industry increases at the rate it has done for the last few years. This leads us into the question of the present and future supply and demand of rubber. The annual output of rubber has been rapidly increasing and for the last seven years the production and consumption are represented by the following figures:

[In metric tons.]

Year.	Production.	Consumption.	Year.	Production.	Consumption.
1900	53,348	48,352	1904	61,759	59,666
1901	52,864	51,136	1905	68,879	65,083
1902	53,877	51,110	1906	77,999	62,754
1903	55,603	52,276			

"The visible supply on hand on June 30, 1905, of 8,869 metric tons, was reduced to 5,352 metric tons by June 30, 1906, though the production of the latter year was 14,651 tons greater than that of the former year.

"Comparing the first and last two years of this table shows an increase of 28.33 per cent in both production and consumption. Last year's output is valued at about 300,000,000 Mexican dollars ($150,000,000), and of this amount tropical America yielded about 63 per cent; tropical Africa, 34 per cent; and Asia, 3 per cent, of which Ceylon plantation rubber furnished 150 tons.

"In 1896, the United States imported from Mexico 16,893 bales of rubber, of which about 5,000 represented 'Cactilla.' During the first seven months of the fiscal year 1906–7, the value of rubber (including guayule) exported amounted to $2,761,873 (United States currency), whereas in 1896 the total value of rubber exported was $1,671,000.

RUBBER IN MEXICO.

"Although Mexico as a rubber-producing country does not yet rank very high, it was the country where rubber was originally found by the Europeans. The oldest data concerning rubber come from Mexico. The earliest historical reference to rubber was made in 1525, when an Italian writer, speaking of the customs of the Mexican Indians, mentions the rubber balls used by them in certain games.

"While rubber was thus first discovered in Mexico, the first rubber planting in the world was also made in Mexico, not in Ceylon, as is often claimed. The person who first took up the question of planting rubber for commercial purposes was the Mexican statesman

Señor Don Matias Romero, a close friend and relative of our present President. When he wrote his paper on rubber culture in the year 1872, there were already several rubber plantations in existence in this Republic. From inquiries in the region where the Romero plantation was started I have found that rubber was planted as early as 1867 in Mexico by Don José María Chacón, at Zanjon Seco, in the district of Soconusco, in Chiapas. During the next year plantations were started in Guatemala, and later on in Nicaragua and Honduras. These plantations were small, but even as regards size they were much larger than the first plantations begun in Ceylon or India.

"Less than ten years ago American capital was attracted toward rubber planting in Mexico. As a result of this movement, we have to-day approximately 95,000 acres on 118 rubber plantations entirely or partly devoted to rubber, representing an investment of $60,000,000 (Mexican).

"From data at hand I would consider the world's area of rubber plantations to be 355,500 acres, distributed as follows:

	Acres.		Acres.
Mexico	95,000	Venezuela	3,400
Malay Peninsula	92,000	Ecuador	3,000
Ceylon	85,000	New Guinea	2,500
Africa	30,000	Borneo	2,000
Central America	14,000	Colombia	1,800
Java	10,000	West Indies	1,600
India	8,200	Other countries	1,000
Brazil	6,000		

RUBBER IN CEYLON.

"As seen from these figures, Mexico has still the lead in regard to area under rubber. The statements published regarding the total area of Ceylon are highly misleading on account of the fact that rubber is being interplanted between tea and cacao. Thus on many estates there are not more than 75 rubber trees to the acre, but in the estimate each acre is stated to be under rubber. In the statistics the same area thus often appears both under tea and rubber or under cacao and rubber. One of the latest statements was made by Mr. Wright, until recently an assistant at the Botanic Gardens of Ceylon, who estimates the present area under rubber in that island at 130,000 acres. Messrs. Ferguson, of Ceylon, recently stated (in August of this year) that the planted acreage of rubber in Ceylon is 150,000 acres, of which they claim that 118,000 consist of rubber alone, and that 52,400 acres of tea and cacao are interplanted with rubber. Data collected by myself in Ceylon in the beginning of the present year show that taking 250 trees to the acre the area

planted does not exceed 85,000. Another favorite method in the East of making up large acreage is to count in the area 'alienated' for rubber culture. That is to say, if a company has alienated from the Government 2,000 acres for a rubber plantation, but planted only 50 acres, they will speak of their plantation as a 2,000-acre rubber estate. If the same rule were followed in Mexico, our acreage would be nearly 400,000 acres. We have rubber estates owning as much as 20,000 acres, of which it is intended ultimately to plant 50 per cent.

"Only a few years ago it was stated in a Ceylon Government publication that the entire area of land suitable for rubber in the island of Ceylon did not exceed 10,000 acres. That this estimate was incorrect is shown by the actual area now planted. This area increased between the years 1890–1898 at the rate of 50 acres per year, and in the last-named year there were about 750 acres planted. It took three years more before the acreage rose to 2,500 acres, but in the last few years it has increased very rapidly. During the last two years the planting has suddenly increased largely in the entire Indo-Malayan region, and it can therefore be hoped that in a few years hence plantation rubber from the East will become of importance in the world's market.

"Only quite recently I had a letter from London in which it was pointed out that the price of crude rubber was liable to decrease very soon on account of the large supply due from the 'vast rubber plantations in the East.' As seen from the statistics given above, the total area is not yet so 'vast' as might be expected from the exaggerated statements issued from London headquarters.

PLANTATION RUBBER.

"With a total area under rubber at the present time of over 355,000 acres, we must naturally expect in six or eight years hence a large supply of plantation rubber. But admitting that the supply of wild rubber would not decrease in that time, while, on the other hand, the demand would keep on increasing, there is not much to fear from a decline in prices.

"The present output of plantation rubber does not exceed 1,000 tons. If we consider that the yield per acre is 300 pounds, the supply of plantation rubber from the present area planted would, twelve years hence, be nearly 55,000 tons per annum. During the last dozen years the increase in the consumption of rubber has been on an average of 8 per cent per annum, and this average is increasing rather than diminishing. If we carry on this increase for another dozen years, we find that twelve years hence the need of rubber would be close to 175,000 tons. We have no reason to suppose that the supply of

wild rubber twelve years hence will be greater than to-day. On the contrary, everything tends to show that the production has reached its limit and will decrease instead of augment in the future. The present area planted would thus not nearly supply the balance of the consumption, provided the output of wild rubber twelve years hence was still 65,000 tons.

"We need not think that the planting of rubber has come to a standstill. Much more land will be planted under this crop all over the Tropics, but very large plantations are needed to supply the increased demand. It is therefore evident that we have not much to fear from overproduction for many years to come.

"It is not many years since rubber planting was looked upon by the ordinary investor as a very hazardous undertaking, and those who were spending money on rubber planting were considered visionaries. At the present time many rubber plantations are coming into bearing, and are for the first time demonstrating the truth of the ideas of the pioneers. Plantations in Ceylon have already paid as much as 40 to 50 per cent in annual dividends. Some Mexican plantations have been able to pay as much as 15 per cent on the invested capital from rubber obtained on the estate.

"The ever-increasing areas under rubber indicate that this industry is able to draw capital, and this is perhaps the best proof that its prospects are good, as capital is a fairly correct index regarding such matters. The fact that rubber planting has gained much notoriety through capital being obtained for the ostensible purpose of exploiting rubber plantations, but in reality has been diverted to the private use of dishonest promoters, is no proof against the possibility of cultivating rubber or against the profitableness of rubber culture. The public has become suspicious towards all rubber-planting companies and many legitimate concerns have suffered.

"If we investigate the causes which have produced some of the most disastrous and sensational failures of rubber plantations, we will find that in every case such a company was not promoted as a *bona fide* and legitimate enterprise for the purpose of building up a successful plantation, but that the whole scheme was intended to benefit the promoters. In some cases the home office expenses have exhausted the entire capital, and little or nothing has been left for the development of the plantation. Some of these plantations have been started on soil which is in every way unsuitable for the cultivation of rubber. On others the development work has been greatly overpaid to the benefit of one or another interested person. Very often the management has lacked all the experience of tropical agriculture, and some of the plantations do not show a result commensurate with the outlay.

PLANTING AND CULTIVATION.

"The first requirement for rubber planting is the right kind of soil and climate, and at the same time an honest and competent administration. If these conditions are fulfilled, rubber planting promises to become one of the most profitable tropical industries.

"The commercial exploitation of various rubber-producing plants was naturally taken up first by the nations which owned tropical colonies or tropical lands. It was in these same countries that the profitableness and possibility of rubber culture were first realized. There was naturally at first a certain hesitation, but of late years an increasing faith in rubber is evident from the fact that more and more capital is being diverted to this new tropical industry.

"There are few plants that are better adapted to cultivation than the principal rubber-producing trees. It has now been fully demonstrated that rubber can be grown profitably on a commercial scale, and that plantation rubber can be produced cheaper and better than the product of the wild tree. Many mistakes are yet made, and comparatively little knowledge exists regarding cultural methods, but with the increased attention now being paid to rubber cultivation it can be hoped that present defects and shortcomings will be corrected in a not too distant future.

"Rubber planters in Mexico and Central America have been experimenting regarding cultural methods for a good many years, and it is only of late definite results have been forthcoming. In many special questions no ultimate conclusions have yet been arrived at and we can not say that we are absolutely certain as to the best methods in any particular stage of the cultivation or preparation of Castilla rubber.

"In regard to soil requirements, Castilla needs an open porous soil, well drained, but with sufficient underground water supply. The chemical consistency of the soil or its relative richness is of little importance. Stagnant water or very acid soil is detrimental, and thin soil with hard impermeable subsoil will grow Castilla for a few years, but when the tree reaches six or seven years of age and the roots penetrate deeper and reach water growth ceases, and the tree is liable to die back.

"The question of shade in Castilla culture has been much debated. In Mexico there are still three different methods in vogue. The first that was used in the early days of rubber culture was to plant in shade. It is based on an erroneous observation of nature. Castilla was found in the forests, and as it is a comparatively low tree, it was supposed that it required shade for its successful growth. It was also found that if the seeds were sown in the open without any shade the young seedlings often failed, or if they survived the first dry season they

grew very slowly. On the other hand seeds germinated very freely when sown in the shade and the seedlings grew rapidly, especially in height. The observant planter soon discovered, however, that the first year's growth was not continued, and as years went by, he found that shade-grown Castillas developed into fishing rods without any increment in trunk growth. Moreover, the trees were sickly, often attacked by root fungi, and generally very liable to disease. There are still some planters who persist in keeping shade, enjoying the sight of 40 to 50 feet high, whip-like trees, 6 or 7 years old, but which never reach a 'tapable' age.

"The second system as regards shading is to plant in semishade, that is, to leave a few high trees when clearing, expecting these to give the rubber trees a certain amount of shelter in the dry season, when the Castilla has shed its leaves and is exposed to the scorching sun. This method has been employed with a certain amount of success on some plantations, especially where the soil is liable to become hard and baked if exposed to the sun. It seems the most natural, as Castilla in its wild state always occurs in the vicinity of other trees from which it receives shelter and shade. To establish such conditions it is not, however, necessary to leave jungle trees as shade, but by planting close the benefits required will be obtained. This can easily be overdone, and the planter has to exert considerable judgment in regard to the distance at which he should plant. In localities where the soil is very moist or drainage imperfect any shade whatsoever may prove dangerous to the health of the rubber, and it certainly will greatly retard the proper development of the stand.

"The third method is to plant in the open. If the seeds are sown at a suitable time, that is if the soil is not moist or if no rain falls for weeks, complete failure in germinating may result. If the district has a distinct dry season, the seedlings will suffer greatly during that time, in case they have not had a good growth before the rains were over. Otherwise there are no objections to planting in the open, and if this has been done fairly close, so that the young plants partly shade each other, they have under these conditions the best opportunities of a rapid development.

"Another important question in regard to rubber planting is that of distance between the trees. Considerable difference of opinion exists in this regard and, as is the case with Hevea planters, distances varying from 6 by 6 to 30 by 30 feet have their advocates among planters of Castilla.

"I have concluded, from experiments conducted with a view toward ascertaining the relation of distance between the trees and the weekly, monthly, and annual increment of trunk growth, that as soon as the roots of the trees touch and become intermatted the

growth of the trees is impaired. But, on the other hand, we know that if the Castilla trees are planted very far apart their growth is stunted and, when the trees become older, their bark is exposed to the heat of the sun and to evaporation caused by dry winds passing through the plantation. The result of this is that the bark cracks, the latex vessels shrivel, and no latex can be obtained. We can say then that the trees are 'sunburned.'

"The question then arises, At what distance are we to plant? I decidedly condemn too close planting, as it leads to a disproportionately whip-like growth of the trunk. I would also emphatically warn against too open planting. I think the error of the latter practice is conclusively proven by the following instance that has come under my observation. Two years ago I visited a large Castilla plantation on which the trees had been planted 21 by 24 feet apart. The trees were 5 years old, and investigation revealed the fact that a great percentage of the trees, especially those which had been growing on dry knolls or exposed places, had a bark very rough, scaly, and full of longitudinal fissures. The inner bark, in which the latex vessels are situated, was very dry and the latex in the ducts had coagulated. In many places on the bark exudition of the latex had taken place and big drops or tears of latex had formed scrap rubber. The only way in which this condition of the trees could be remedied was to allow the weeds to grow up and underbrush to develop. This vegetation shades the trunk, and in due time new bark is formed and the old thrown off. This process takes at least two years and is successful only in case the cambium has not been injured.

"In deciding about the distance at which to plant, we have to take into consideration the following two primary factors: The trees must not stand so close as to impede the growth of each other and they must not be far enough apart to leave the trunks exposed to sun and wind.

"From the above we obtain an indication pointing to the method we ought to follow, namely, close planting and subsequent gradual thinning, according to the requirements of the trees. Besides fulfilling some of the conditions leading to a successful development of rubber stand, the method of close planting has other advantages. It permits of a thorough system of selection, which is not possible under the method of open planting in permanent situations. From a financial point of view close planting is decidedly superior to any other method. It has been proved that by proper management the intermediate rubber trees which are not supposed to remain permanently in the stand, can be made to produce a sufficient quantity of rubber to render the system very profitable before the permanent trees can be considered productive. By close planting the danger of failures in the stand is reduced almost to nil, and this is important to the planter,

as filling up failures in a young forest is both expensive and precarious.

"There is always a temptation to leave too many trees in order to provide for a big side crop, but this should naturally be resisted. A heavy thinning comes to the assistance of the best specimens of growth, and it must on no account be omitted or postponed. It is extremely difficult to lay down any definite rules as to thinning operations, but it has been conclusively proved that the general rules applied to scientific forestry in regard to silvicultural operations are fully applicable to the cultivated rubber trees. Rubber planting is nothing else than silviculture, and we should take our lessons from ordinary common sense and from the results obtained from the extensive experience of the forest planter, naturally with due attention paid to the particular conditions obtaining in the Tropics and the peculiar nature of the rubber tree.

"The method of propagating Castilla first employed was to sow seeds in nurseries, and when the seedlings were 4 to 6 months old they were transplanted. Very often, however, transplanting was not done before a year after sowing. The plants were then from 5 to 12 feet high. The seedlings were cut 5 or 6 inches below the surface and topped, leaving a pole some 3 feet long. Tied into bundles these poles were carried into the field. With a pointed stake holes were made in the ground about 1 foot deep, and the pole placed in the hole and the soil pressed close to the stem. When this planting was done carefully and if rain fell within the next two or three days, not more than 3 or 4 per cent of failures occurred. In places where the soil was somewhat sandy the failures were more frequent.

"Later experience has proved that the cheapest and surest method is to plant the seeds at stake. Nearly a year's growth is thus gained, and it does away with expensive replanting, where failures occur under the transplanting method. The seeds are planted in small hills, about 7 seeds in each hill, 3 inches between the seeds. The hills are at a distance of about 7 feet in rows 12 feet apart.

"In planting in this manner we allow for a high percentage of failures in germination; we can give ants, lizards, and field rats their due amount and we still have plants in abundance. This method has now been practiced several years with success. There are no complete failures in any hill, except where planting has been done in ground which is too acid. In such places we may have to replant in small patches after proper draining has been prepared for, and for this purpose we use excess plants growing in the neighborhood. During the first few months seedlings backward, misshaped, or overcrowded should be thinned at the time of each weeding. Generally at least 50 per cent of all the seedlings should be cut out during the

first six months. This thinning should be continued during subsequent years until at the end of the sixth year from sowing there are approximately 800 trees to the acre. The best 400 trees are to remain permanently and are not touched before they have reached 26 or 28 inches in circumference at 3 feet from the ground. The intermediate trees are tapped when 6 years old, very heavily—that is, as much latex as possible is extracted. A few weeks later the trees are inspected. Those that have suffered from tapping should be marked and doomed. If they still yield latex they are cut up with numerous incisions, and a few days afterwards the scrap is collected and the trees felled. Those trees that promise to recuperate should be left untouched for four months, when they are again tapped in the regular way. After a second inspection they should be killed. Exceptional trees, which do not crowd upon the permanent trees, may be left to the following or seventh year, when they are tapped with an ultimate view to their destruction. At the end of the seventh year we have 400 trees to the acre.

"A most important item in the formation of a plantation is an efficient drainage. In this work every fall of the ground must be taken advantage of, and in many cases much may be done by straightening and clearing existing water courses.

"The question of draining for rubber has been overlooked in the whole of Mexico. Most planters claim that it is sufficient to have what is called a good natural drainage. This is a mistake. The Eastern planter has fully realized this, and even on very sloping land drains are made before the rubber is planted. I do not remember having seen a single rubber plantation in the East where this was not done. The object of draining is not only to provide an outlet for the surface water, but to drain the ground down to a certain depth.

"In commencing the work the positions of the main outlets must first be determined. The main drains are next opened according to the fall of the ground, and minor conduits are formed up and down the face of the slope. It is impossible to lay down definite rules as to the exact method of making drains. The fault of overdraining must be guarded against as well as its opposite extreme. Much has been written and said about the diseases of rubber trees. We have been fortunate enough in Mexico not to be bothered with any serious outbreak, but it is necessary that we be very careful and keep a constant watch over any disease that may appear. In this respect the Planters' Association has a great mission by undertaking systematic and organized inquiries. We know very well that every cultivated plant has its enemies, and it would be wrong to assume that the rubber tree would be the sole exception to this rule. As a matter of fact, we know that the rubber is attacked by various enemies.

" Perpetual immunity from diseases can not be expected, and every possible step to prevent the occurrence of an epidemic must be observed. The larger area planted with one particular crop, the greater the danger of an outbreak. A single-crop system is for this reason most unsuitable and even disastrous.

" Where no natural enemies exist, the changed conditions caused by large acreage being put under a single product call forth new diseases. Special measures must be taken to meet such an emergency. Where vast continuous areas have been planted with one product, it is imperative that protective belts either of jungle or of other plants be left to form boundaries. In the Federated Malay States the Director of Agriculture has prevailed upon the Government to declare a certain area of forest as reserve, and this divides the entire country into two main districts. The idea is that if an epidemic appears in one district there is every possibility of checking its spreading into the other.

"A similar policy is advisable on individual estates. A belt or a strip of forest 30 to 50 meters wide is not only an effective means of preventing diseases from spreading, but it is also an excellent fire-break.

" In regard to disease of the rubber tree, we must draw lessons from the serious damage which has been done in other countries to other agricultural industries. If we take steps and keep any pest that appears under control, we need have no fear.

"As we all know, fire is the rubber planter's worst enemy. We have had the sad experience in Mexico of large areas of planted rubber being burned in the dry season. In some cases this has been an inevitable misfortune, but in other cases it would have been easy to prevent the fire. One of the most important matters in this connection is the laying out of the plantation. It is not practical to plant the entire area of thousands of acres in one continuous block. This is so for many reasons. Roads are needed for communication into the plantations. It is, further, a great advantage to have the entire plantation laid off in symmetrical blocks for the purpose of controlling the tapping and other work, as well as the number of trees.

" Several rubber plantations in various parts of this country were laid out eight and nine years ago on the plan of square blocks each containing a certain number of trees. Such are surrounded by roads of more or less width. If these roads are kept clear, as they should be, they constitute effective fire breaks, and it is possible by means of these to check a fire and limit it to a certain area, instead of having it sweep over the whole plantation.

" Every now and then we hear of some writer who claims that some Mexican rubber planters have expressed their doubt as to the wisdom

of planting Castilla when Hevea shows such a decided success in the East. Let me here draw attention to the fact that even if we could successfully grow Hevea here in Mexico we could not possibly make it a paying business. The reason is that the nature of the latex-bearing ducts in Hevea is such that at each tapping only a small amount of latex exudes. For this reason a system of multiple tapping is employed for this tree. Castilla, on the other hand, gives much more latex at each tapping, and we know that multiple tapping as employed on Hevea is of no avail on our trees.

"With the price of labor standing close to $1 a day, and scarce at that price, it would be impossible to tap our rubber trees every second day, receiving only about one-tenth of an ounce per tapping In Java, the Federated Malay States, and Ceylon, they pay about 20 to 30 cents (Mexican) to their laborers, and this fact alone explains the profits of their rubber industry.

"We need not by any means feel discouraged over Castilla planting. Do it right and it will pay as much as almost any other tropical crop. We do not need to trouble ourselves about many other rubber-producing plants which are cultivated elsewhere.

"Although many points have been advanced for the profitableness of one or another rubber plant in preference to others, there can be no doubt that the number of rubber plants which can be grown with commercial success is very small. Of the many different plants which contain rubber there is one class that is wholly unsuitable for cultivation. We refer to the climbers or lianas. These plants furnish a great part of the crude rubber now available on the market. For instance, all the rubber or gutta-percha collected in the Philippines comes from various climbing plants. Similarly, most of the African rubber is obtained from lianas. In collecting, these have to be cut down and consequently furnish only one crop. When we consider that it takes several years for one of these plants to grow up to its full size, and when we further remember that the climbers require large trees for support, it is evident that cultivation of climbers for commercial purposes can not be a success.

"Other plants yield rubber in such small quantities that cultivation would not pay, and others, again, do not yield before they have reached the age of over twenty years, in which case the returns would not offer inducement enough for starting plantations.

COMPARATIVE VALUES OF DIFFERENT SPECIES.

"If we eliminate all the many different rubber plants which for one reason or another are not suitable for cultivation, we have four or perhaps five kinds to take into consideration. Besides the two principal kinds of Para rubber and Castilla, we have the Ceará

rubber (*Manihot Glaziovil Muell. Arg.*), which was originally found wild in certain mountain districts in Brazil, where it is occasionally gathered by the natives. This tree was first considered very suitable for cultivation, and more than twenty years ago it was largely planted in Ceylon and also in India, but at present it is not considered worth collecting.

"The Assam rubber (*Ficus elástica*) of East India has been producing rubber for a long time, but it is not likely to become planted very widely, as even in its native country it does not produce rubber profitably before it has reached a rather advanced age. Both in Java and the Malay Peninsula I found that both private planters and Government experts were discouraging the planting of this tree. It is, however, the longest lived of all the rubber trees and would probably go on improving for a century. The main trouble with the Ficus is in the tapping, which is very difficult.

"The so-called Lagos rubber (*Funtumia elástica*), which grows wild on the west coast of Africa, is being planted in its native country, and has been tried experimentally in many botanical gardens throughout the Tropics, but it is not considered very good.

"In Colombia and certain parts of Central America there occurs in the high mountains a rubber tree which produced a very good kind of rubber. This is the *Sapium tolimense* which may yet prove to be suitable for our tropical highlands up to an elevation of 7,000 feet. To my knowledge no experiments with this plant have yet been made in Mexico, mainly on account of the difficulty of obtaining true seeds. Over a year ago I received and planted seeds which were said to be those of the 'Sapium,' but when the plant appeared I found it to be another species which does not produce rubber.

"The *Hancornia speciosa* of Brazil, or the Mangabeira rubber, is a very slow-growing tree, rather difficult to cultivate. and I do not think it would be a success in Mexico.

"As we have to leave out the Hevea on account of the cost of collecting the rubber, we find ourselves confined to the rubber tree of Mexico, growing at our very doors in the Tropics. Taken as an ordinary cultivated tree, the Castilla is as easy a plant to cultivate as any. But we must not for a moment believe, as many company promoters like to state, that all we have to do is to plant the seeds in the ground and wait for the crops to appear. As in regard to other plants, Castilla reacts to good treatment. We have so far learned a good deal about the methods of cultivation, and our knowledge of rubber culture to-day is quite different from that of five years ago.

"In this and in many other regards the Rubber Planters' Association has a great mission and we hope that a few years hence, when the result of the work of the association has begun to be evident, the Mexican rubber industry shall be not a thing to be laughed at, but

one of the leading agricultural industries of this country and one which will have the lead in competition with other countries."

CULTIVATED RUBBER TREES.

An article in the "Peruvian Agriculturist," a weekly publication of Lima, states that cultivated rubber trees yield 50 per cent more rubber than wild rubber trees, which is equivalent to saying that half the number of laborers working on a plantation of cultivated rubber trees will produce double the quantity of rubber that would be produced if the same number of workmen operated on a plantation of wild rubber trees, to say nothing of the greater ease and comfort with which the work is done.

Cultivating rubber trees without clearing the plantation is even more profitable than is their cultivation on a cleared plantation. By the former method owners of wild rubber forests have only to plant the unoccupied spaces with rubber trees to obtain a large area of land covered with this plant growing closely together, and, although it is true that some species, such as the Hevea, require from five to ten years to become productive, nevertheless, during this period, the wild rubber trees can be exploited, and it should be borne in mind that the capital required in rubber-tree cultivation of this kind is very small compared with the subsequent benefits to be derived therefrom.

The cultivation of some other species of rubber tree is even more productive than that of the Hevea, such, for instance, as the Manizoba, inasmuch as trees of this species can be tapped after the second year, their cultivation is simpler, and their development more rapid than that of the Hevea. Tapping after the second or third year produces about 150 grams of rubber per tree annually, and instead of injuring the tree the tapping tames or educates it, so that each time it is tapped it will produce a larger yield of rubber until the maximum of 500 grams annually is obtained. Supposing each tree to produce 150 grams of rubber annually, and taking into consideration the fact that rubber trees can be planted 2 meters apart, 1 hectare would contain 2,500 trees, and would produce yearly 375 kilograms of rubber, or 25 Portuguese arrobas of 15 kilograms each. The average price of an arroba is 65 sols, or 1,625 sols per hectare, which quantity would increase each year, as constant tapping increases the production of rubber in the species referred to. Good results have also been obtained by fertilizing clayey soil.

CONDITIONS GOVERNING THE GUAYULE INDUSTRY.

A valuable report, transmitted to the Department of State of the United States by Consul-General Gottschalk at Mexico City, contains information as to the actual conditions prevailing as regards

the guayule rubber industry and the precarious future of the plant unless some sure method of propagating it be discovered. Special emphasis is laid by Mr. GOTTSCHALK upon the fact of the short-lived economic value of guayule as at present exploited.

A résumé of the report follows:

One of the products which within the past two years has attracted world-wide attention has been the guayule (*Parthenium argentum*), formerly considered as a mere weed, whose very presence destroyed the value of the lands, but which was suddenly discovered to be of commercial importance as a producer or rubber. The guayule lands of northern Mexico found ready exploitation and prices advanced enormously, while factories for reducing the shrub to a commercial product were extensively installed, mainly in Torreon, Saltillo, and Coahuila. Large lots of the shrub were contracted for, in some cases as large a sum as $50 gold per ton being paid for it, the reported yield in rubber being $1 gold per pound. As a result of this enthusiasm, investigation was made of the properties of the plant, with the result that it was ascertained that no one seemed to have a very definite idea as to its continued propagation. One owner of a large tract of guayule land informed Mr. GOTTSCHALK that he found out too late that if care were taken to let the shrub run to seed before cutting and then shake the plant carefully after it had been cut so that the seeds might fall to the ground the soil would continue bearing. As, however, the best yield of rubber was to be obtained from cutting a comparatively young plant, and, further, as the seeds might lie dormant and unproductive for two or three years, it may be readily seen that the ordinary rubber exploiter would be unwilling to adopt the necessary precautions.

The guayule shrub, which is being milled in the factories of the country, grows over but a limited area of Mexico. No care is taken in its gathering and no reseeding or otherwise propagating the plant is provided for. (A recent contract made with the Government in this this connection, however, include certain stipulations as to this matter.) The high prices offered by the factories have led to a reckless harvesting of the immature shrubs, with the result that in many cases large lots of guayule are received which do not yield the desired rubber.

In the effort to discover some means of adequately propagating the plant, Prof. F. E. LLOYD, late of the Botanical Laboratory, Carnegie Institute, Tuscon, Arizona, United States, has been experimenting scientifically on one of the Chihuahua plantations, but as yet no results have been announced.

The present consumption of guayule at the center of the industry is about 1,000 tons of the shrub per month, so that Mr. GOTTSCHALK

reports that he is told by the manufacturers that they see an end of their enterprises within from three to five years, unless some reproductive methods are applied to the plant.

CAOUTCHOUC FROM THE GUAYULE PLANT.

Doctor ENDLICH's article, illustrated with four photographs of the guayule plant in its natural state, in the July, 1907, "*Tropenpflanzer*," may be cited as one of the most interesting papers that have been published on the subject. The plant thrives particularly well on the sides of deep slopes, at the foot of hills and mountains, and on the table-lands at an altitude of from 900 to 2,000 meters. The size of the plant varies according to age, conditions of the soil, and location, the average height being about 60 centimeters. The tallest specimen found in the Ramirez Mountain, State of Coahuila, measured 1.36 meters.

Guayule grows very slowly, and the plants now being gathered are supposed to be from 10 to 30 years old. According to Mr. MARX, the plant grows the first year to a height of only 15 centimeters, the stem being very weak. Notwithstanding this fact, it bears flowers and produces seed from this period on, but can not be advantageously exploited until the eighth year. No caoutchouc is found in the plant up to the third year, and the production is scant up to the eighth year. Mr. P. OLSSON-SEFFER, the distinguished director of the botanic station and of the Zacualpa laboratory, Mexico, observes that the height of 3 or 4 year old plants is 50 centimeters, while that of 6-year-old plants is 75 centimeters, and the weight, on an average is 4 pounds. It is no exaggeration, therefore, to estimate the age of the guayule plant suitable for profitable exploitation at between 8 and 10 years.

Natural florescence occurs from September to October; nevertheless, rain and altitude may considerably modify this period. It should be noted that, notwithstanding its slow growth, the guayule plant flowers and fructifies within a year after the seed has been sown. The seed, which is very abundant, do not always completely ripen, especially in the colder regions.

Conservative experts estimate the area covered by the guayule plant in Mexico at 75,000 hectares, situated in the northern part of the States of Zacatecas and San Luis Potosi, the eastern part of Durango, and particularly the southern part of Coahuila. The plant is also found, in more or less abundance, in the States of Nuevo Leon and Chihuahua, in Mexico. and in New Mexico, Arizona, and Texas, in the United States.

Mr. OTTO KOEHLER, president of the National Rubber Company, believes that the guayule plant found in the United States is not as

rich in rubber-producing qualities as that of Mexico, but thinks it could be profitably exploited where there is an abundance of water and cheap freight rates. A company has been recently organized in New York for the exploitation of the guayule plant in western Texas, and a factory will be erected at Del Rio, Texas, for the elaboration of the product.

The true guayule of commerce is the *Parthenium argentatum.* This must not be confounded with a kindred species known as "Mariola" (*Parthenium incanum*), which grows in the same regions as the true guayule, and whose value as a rubber-producing plant is almost worthless. The distinguishing characteristics of the two plants are as follows:

Parthenium argentatum.—Silver gray; tomatose leaves and shoots; short stem; short branches with smooth bark; lanceolate leaves from 2 to 5 centimeters long by 5 to 15 millimeters in width, serrated or entire with sharp one-third lobes; petiole slender and long.

Parthenium incanum.—Leaves and buds tomatose of a whitish or brownish color; shrub 30 to 60 centimeters high, much ramified from the base; long branches, rugose bark with longitudinal cracks; small, oblong or oval leaves, 25 millimeters long by 2 millimeters wide, deeply pinnate-lobed; petiole very short.

Mr. Endlich estimates the present guayule reserve at 375,000 tons, based on an average output of from 500 to 800 kilograms per hectare, including in his estimate the least productive regions, while the "India Rubber World" believes the total natural product to be about 300,000 tons, of which 20,000 to 30,000 tons have already been exploited. The average yield of the grown plant is fixed at from 8 to 11 per cent of rubber. Some experts, however, consider that with improvements in the process of extraction the yield may become as high as 18 per cent.

Up to 1905 German merchants bought the guayule crop at the points of production and shipped at profitable prices some thousands of tons of the product to Germany. On November 1 of the year referred to, this traffic was suddenly checked by the Mexican Government's placing a prohibitive export duty of $15 a ton on the raw product. This measure stimulated the development of the local industry, and many factories were constructed by private parties and concessions obtained from the Government to exploit guayule lands for periods of from fifteen to twenty years.

Rich companies were formed for the exploitation of this industry, and there are in northern Mexico at the present time ten large companies, with fifteen factories in operation and several in construction, in which a number of prominent American capitalists are concerned. One of these corporations—the Continental Rubber Company—is

said to have invested 20,000,000 francs in the purchase of lands, patents, and the construction of factories, etc. The principal factory at Torreon has a motive force of 1,800 horsepower and works large enough to treat 100 tons of the raw product daily. Some of the guayule has to be transported on the backs of mules for over 100 miles before reaching the factory.

German interests in the guayule industry are also represented on a large scale, and it is said that the Dresdner Bank and the firm of Krupp have invested large sums of money in this industry.

The process of extraction varies as to detail, and is covered by some 142 patents taken out during the last few years by inventors. In the chemical process, which is generally more expensive than the mechanical, but which produces a better product, the akalies have been replaced by sulphides of carbon.

The cost of a ton of caoutchouc prepared with caustic soda is about $120 silver. Mr. Marx considers the process of the maceration of the raw material and the extraction of the caoutchouc by the action of vapor in an alkaline solution to be the best.

It seems that the mechanical processes now employed do not satisfy all of the conditions to be desired. They are cheaper, but produce an inferior grade of caoutchouc, which brings in the German market 3.50 marks, as compared with 5.50 marks for the product produced by the chemical process.

The companies are endeavoring to eliminate the 27 per cent of fibrous substance and the greater part of the resin contained in the guayule treated by the mechanical process. Trials have been made in the use of the bagasse as a fuel in the production of motive power, but it has been proven that the use of this material quickly injures the boilers. The resin will probably be separated from the fiber and used as a by-product, and the wood residue utilized in the manufacture of paper. The bagasse from guayule treated with caustic soda contains a certain percentage of caoutchouc that it has been impossible to separate.

Dry guayule stalks, which were formerly worth $15 silver per ton, delivered at the factory, now bring from 200 to 250 francs. The price of guayule caoutchouc, which was fixed at 1s. 6d. for the first shipments of 1905, gradually rose to 2s., 2s. 6d., and 3s. in August, 1906. At that time the price fell in New York to 25 cents a pound, and 3 marks per kilogram in Hamburg on account of speculations of the Continental Rubber Company. Since then guayule caoutchouc has rapidly increased in value, and the best grade recently brought 65 cents a pound in New York, and up to 5.75 marks per kilogram in Hamburg. In May last 9 tons of guayule caoutchouc was sold in Antwerp at 5 francs per kilogram. The prices vary from 4 to 6.25 francs according to grade.

From an industrial standpoint guayule is a plant producing caoutchouc of a special kind, the raw product being soft, more or less sticky, due to the presence of a certain quantity (sometimes a considerable quantity) of resin, is difficult to preserve and slow to vulcanize. It is necessary to thoroughly understand the manipulation of guayule caoutchouc to purify and use it immediately after the drying process is completed. The present grades, freed from two-thirds of the resinous contents, make a product very similar to Panama caoutchouc, for which it may be mistaken.

Guayule is a useful product permanently established in the market, the value of which will increase in accordance with the improvements in the processes of extraction. The guayule plant, however, is not as plentiful as was originally supposed, and while the factories may have a sufficient quantity of it to supply their demands for the next few years, it can only be permanently supplied to them through cultivation, and the problem of cultivating this plant has been but little studied up to the present time.

Mr. Olsson-Seffer, as well as the "Tropical Life," believe that guayule cultivation can not be successfully carried on on dry, unirrigated lands. An experiment made by Mr. Hoffmann in transplanting the guayule plant into irrigated furrows shows that 80 per cent of the plants lived and developed, as compared with 25 per cent when transplanted on dry, unirrigated land.

In the problem of cultivation the two principal factors to be considered are soil and climate. Mr. Endlich thinks the proper soil for the cultivation of the guayule plant should contain from 20 to 30 per cent of calcareous matter and a sufficient quantity of humus to lessen evaporation and induce the rapid growth and development of this useful rubber-producing shrub.

COCOA PREPARATION IN DIFFERENT COUNTRIES.

The following extracts from an article by Ivor Etherington are reproduced as of value in the present status of the cocoa market:

"The most important process in the cocoa industry is the fermentation and curing of the bean, since upon this treatment largely depends the quality and price of the product. In countries where cocoa is cultivated, different methods are employed in the treatment of the pod. When the ripe cocoa is gathered the bean is placed in suitable piles near the factory so that it can be hulled. The pericarp or capsule containing the bean is then cut with a knife and the seeds, together with the pulp by which they are surrounded, are placed in baskets. When more than one variety of cocoa is cultivated on a

plantation, the beans of the different varieties should be kept separate to be fermented and cured.

"The object of the fermentation is to remove the saccharine pulp that surrounds the seed, to improve the color of the cocoa, to better the general condition of the seed for the purpose of crushing it, to harden the shell of the grain, to improve the flavor of the bean, and lastly, to avoid rust. It should be added that the fermentation of the seed is not absolutely essential. Cocoa of a dark purple color, and, which has a bitter flavor not fermented, is the kind most in demand in some markets. Nevertheless, some of the best cocoa known to the trade has been more or less fermented. In Ceylon cocoa is thoroughly fermented.

"In a word, fermentation is a process for the seasoning of the cocoa in its own juice. In Nicaragua the fermentation is carried on for two or three days, while in Guatemala and Salvador about half of this time is used. In Surinam six or seven days are employed in this process, and owing to this fact a superior quality of cocoa is obtained which has become famous. In Venezuela the fermentation takes place in bags exposed to the sun during the day and allowed to sweat during the night, while in Mexico holes are dug in the ground, the cocoa is placed therein, covered with banana leaves, and allowed to ferment. There are many cultivators of this product in Trinidad Island who do not ferment their cocoa, but they have now commenced to adopt this treatment.

"The process of fermentation may be carried on in the open air, in a house or shed, or in special boxes or tanks. This method, however, may be dispensed with and the fermentation effected by placing the beans in piles. In order to ferment uninformly each pile the seeds should be turned over daily and then re-covered for the purpose of repeating the operation. The heat of the mass thus formed increases gradually and should not be allowed to become excessive, as it may impair the quality of the product. The average temperature for the purpose of fermentation may be considered to be from 35° C. to 40° C.

"After fermentation the cocoa should be washed to remove the seed from the pulp. The operation of washing is carried on with greater efficiency in places where running water can be utilized. Water tanks may also be used and, in some instances, machinery may be employed to remove the seed and obtain an entirely clean grain. The American markets do not require the washed cocoa, but in Germany and England the clean grain is preferred. In Nicaragua the cocoa is not washed, but in Salvador and Guatemala this process is coming into vogue. It is said that the delicate flavor of the cocoa produced in Central America is due to the washing process employed in that country.

"The seed should be extracted after the fermentation whether the bean is washed or not. The operation of drying is really the curing of the cocoa and should be effected with the greatest care by means of the heat of the sun or artificial heat in houses especially constructed for that purpose having warm rooms or chambers. The curing causes the seed to acquire a brown or chocolate color, varying according to the species of cocoa and the conditions of the locality. In all cases the drying should be slow and last at least three or four days, according to the intensity of the fermentation to which the seeds are subjected. The curing is very important in preparing cocoa for the market and should always be effected with great care and skill. The cured seeds are classified according to size, quality, appearance, and the color of the grain. The light-colored grain has a better flavor, but in some markets there is a great demand for the dark-colored grain.

"In some countries special methods are employed for the purpose of giving luster and color to the grain. In Venezuela red earth is used, in western India different substances, such as starch, annatto seed, red ocher, and red earth or clay. When the grain acquires sufficient luster it is placed in bags and sent to the market."

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

FOREIGN COMMERCE, NINE MONTHS OF 1907.

The Statistical Office of the Argentine Government has issued its regular bulletin "*El Comercio Exterior Argentino*" covering the foreign trade of the Republic during the first nine months—January to September—of the year 1907. Import values for the period are placed at $202,835,218 gold, showing an advance of $5,519,704 as compared with the same nine months of 1906; exports figure for $240,878,611, showing a gain of $16,247,350 over the corresponding period of the preceding year. Dutiable imports are quoted at $128,184,517, and free at $74,650,701, and gold and silver figure for $23,440,946. On the export list, dutiable items were valued at $868, while free exports aggregated $240,877,743, and gold and silver shipments were worth $281,750.

From the above figures it is noted that the balance of trade in favor of the Republic amounted for the nine months in reference to $38,043,393, while imports of gold and silver exceeded exports by $23,159,193.

In the distribution of imports by countries of origin, the United Kingdom heads the list with $71,964,236, followed by Germany, $32,131,549; the United States, $26,476,423; France, $18,447,927;

Italy, $17,577,375; Belgium, $11,471,881; Brazil, $5,371,957; Spain, $5,191,250; Uruguay, $1,874,291; Austria-Hungary, $1,731,721; the Netherlands, $1,162,333; Paraguay, $983,143; Chile, $313,955; Bolivia, $105,457, and Africa, $15,997.

Included under the general classification of "Other countries of origin" are: Australia, $44,418; Canada, $687,141; Colombia, $2,493; Cuba, $386,964; China, $404,409; Denmark, $38,744; Ecuador, $23,528; Egypt, $1,103; Greece, $31,555; Guatemala, $689; Japan, $147,764; Mexico, $3,622; Norway, $336,171; Persia, $547; Peru, $531,843; Portugal, $208,287; French Colonies, $6,875; Dutch Colonies, $30,039; British Colonies, $2,641,515; North American Colonies, $9,855; Roumania, $1,675; Russia, $261,815; Salvador, $708; Dominican Republic, $287; Sweden, $280,076; Switzerland, $1,567,371; Turkey, $30,044, and Venezuela, $9,633.

As compared with the first nine months of 1906, increased imports with their respective valuations are noted from the following countries: Germany, $3,617,968; the United Kingdom, $2,803,301; Belgium, $2,262,096; Austria-Hungary, $545,587; Uruguay, $520,521; Brazil, $598,085; Paraguay, $84,318, and Bolivia, $10,862.

A decline in import values is noted as follows: In regard to France, $2,216,698; Italy, $1,009,397; the United States, $719,829; Spain, $358,155; Chile, $132,410; the Netherlands, $27,344, and Africa, $5,265.

As a receiver of Argentine exports during the nine months of 1907, the United Kingdom stands first, having taken values amounting to $40,561,378, followed by Germany, $28,784,527; France, $28,351,594; Belgium, $24,637,882; Brazil, $10,388,686; United States, $8,627,941; the Netherlands, $3,526,970; Italy, $3,283,705; Uruguay, $2,839,833; Chile, $1,586,677; Africa, $1,326,650; Spain, $1,287,154; Bolivia, $543,853; Austria-Hungary, $521,492, and Paraguay, $117,139.

"Other countries" of destination include: Cuba, $217,811; Denmark, $89,238; Norway, $1,061,144; Peru, $90,613; Portugal, $25,401; French Colonies, $664; British Colonies, $45,197, and Sweden, $665,149.

Exports to the following countries show the increases noted: The United Kingdom, $9,300,538; Belgium, $5,027,366; France, $3,711,702; Brazil, $1,598,683; the Netherlands, $1,189,856; Austria-Hungary, $486,951; Chile, $430,984, and Bolivia, $246,076.

Decreased export valuations are noted as follows: To Africa, $1,957,171; the United States, $1,701,312; Italy, $1,526,770; Uruguay, $977,049; Spain, $574,033; Germany, $399,408, and Paraguay, $17,709.

Imports for the nine months of 1907 establish a record for the ten years' period 1898–1907, while exports were exceeded during that time only in 1905, when they figured for $247,110,133.

The official estimate of the year's import trade is placed at $268,655,917 as compared with $269,970,521 in 1906, while exports are estimated at a valuation of $318,622,501 against $292,253,829 in the preceding year.

Imports for the nine months of 1907 show the following classifications and values with the respective gains or losses noted, as compared with the corresponding period of 1906:

Articles.	Nine months, 1907.	Comparison with 1906.
Live animals	$1,289,472	− $84,177
Food substances	14,488,526	+ 1,427,250
Tobacco and manufactures	3,334,241	− 313,171
Wines and liquors	8,638,272	− 122,005
Textiles	36,774,332	− 7,292,130
Oils, etc	5,708,485	+ 152,479
Chemical and pharmaceutical products	5,758,459	+ 53,620
Paints and dyes	1,090,496	− 77,482
Woods and manufactures	4,142,710	+ 99,639
Paper and manufactures	3,860,608	+ 460,903
Leather and manufactures	1,519,115	− 259,532
Iron and steel and manufactures	21,881,358	− 3,045,906
Other metals	5,095,933	− 972,505
Agricultural implements	10,403,024	− 1,394,407
Vehicles and parts thereof	40,704,872	+16,270,779
Ceramic products	14,852,952	− 412,055
Building materials	15,784,492	+ 694,040
Electrical appliances	2,487,013	+ 287,154
Other articles	5,020,858	+ 47,210

Export classifications and comparisons for the two periods were as follows:

Articles.	Nine months, 1907.	Comparison with 1906.
Animal products	$88,246,566	−$1,464,958
Agricultural products	146,406,061	+19,524,731
Forest products	3,966,755	− 805,130
Mining products	490,619	+ 302,712
Products of the chase	609,565	− 92,765
Various	1,159,045	− 1,217,240

FREE ENTRY FOR MINING AND METALLURGICAL MACHINERY.

An Argentine law dated September 30, 1907, exempts from customs duty during a period of ten years, machinery, tools, and materials necessary for the installation and working of mining and metallurgical establishments which may be erected or which actually exist in the Republic. The law also covers machinery, tools, and materials for well boring.

In order to obtain the exemption in question, the interested persons must apply in writing to the custom-house through which it is desired to effect the importation. The charges involved in the verification of the materials will be for the account of the applicant.

INTERNAL-REVENUE RECEIPTS, NINE MONTHS OF 1907.

Argentine revenues from internal taxes during the first nine months of 1907 amounted to $31,493,006.17 paper and $21,641 gold, as compared with $28,744,276.68 paper and $19,634.16 gold during the corresponding period of the preceding year.

RAILWAY ROLLING STOCK, 1907.

The Argentine Minister of Public Works has prepared a statement showing the rolling stock in the service of the various railway companies of the Republic at the close of 1907 as demonstrating their ability to meet the requirements of moving the crops.

The capacity of the roads and their respective increases as compared with 1906 were as follows:

Road.	Freight locomotives.	Capacity of cars.	Per cent of increase.
		Tons.	
Great Southern	544	218,200	10.82
Western	277	160,000	27.50
Rosario	259	145,000	17.85
Central Argentine	205	111,000	28.19
Pacific	135	140,000	22.80
Great Western	168	63,800	65.50
Andine	23	11,940	11.40
Province Santa Fe	112	50,000	5.12
Central Cordoba	95	33,000	24.00
Cordoba and Rosario	35	11,840	46.30
National Central Northern	148	53,800	.....
North Argentine	38	19,250	.....

The State-owned lines show no increase.

The grain sheds, etc., at stations belonging to the railways and to individual owners have a total capacity of 795,455 square meters. This does not include sheds, warehouses, and elevators at terminal stations or ports which have, taken together, a capacity of 2,266,421 tons.

CROP AREAS SOWN IN 1907.

The returns showing definitely the areas sown in wheat, linseed, and oats throughout the Argentine Republic in 1907 have been issued by the Statistical Office of the Agricultural Department. They vary slightly from the estimates previously published, the wheat area being 27,000 *hectares* (2.471 acres) less, linseed 24,000 *hectares* more, and oats 42,000 *hectares* more.

The comparative figures showing the 1907 and 1906 areas are as follows:

	1907.	1906.
	Hectares.	*Hectares.*
Wheat	5,759,987	5,692,171
Linseed	1,391,467	1,020,216
Oats	284,098	76,610

BANK STATEMENT, SEPTEMBER 30, 1907.

A communication received from the Department of Foreign Relations of the Argentine Republic, dated October 30, 1907, contains a statement published by the Minister of Finance, showing the situation of 15 of the Argentine banks on September 30, 1907. Their total deposits on that date amounted to $27,660,970 gold, and $726,997,077 paper; discounts and loans, $37,890,804 gold, and $735,520,948 paper; cash on hand, $39,580,616 gold, and $247,913,453 paper.

Following is the statement referred to:

Banks.	Deposits.		Discounts and loans.		Cash on hand.	
	Gold.	Paper.	Gold.	Paper.	Gold.	Paper.
Anglo Sud Americano	$1,040,689	$7,929,889	$1,661,089	$23,260,764	$280,399	$2,344,530
Alemán Transatlántico	1,477,778	28,286,563	5,234,010	29,819,705	1,273,717	6,982,400
Británico de la América del Sud	1,319,518	32,022,208	3,827,381	27,638,896	1,089,986	8,090,334
Crédito Argentino	3,299	2,499,235	7,016	2,726,652	3,762	815,736
Español del Río de la Plata	1,870,254	114,056,960	2,312,570	87,567,259	2,066,987	40,134,456
Francés del Río de la Plata	5,288,882	43,377,944	6,302,046	45,238,034	3,606,230	12,717,195
Galicia y Buenos Aires	12,162	4,573,610	43,867	5,733,532	85,725	1,509,048
Germánico de la América del Sur	1,520,621	3,672,629	1,482,686	7,584,849	918,342	4,475,517
Habilitador		130,909		212,795		
Italia y Río de la Plata	2,191,288	68,744,077	3,560,238	53,646,506	4,085,657	12,826,146
Londres y Brasil	568,616	8,438,343	2,790,490	7,182,607	479,707	2,813,418
Londres y Río de la Plata	6,345,973	122,476,580	7,154,408	77,196,810	5,293,775	42,929,780
Nación Argentina	3,707,274	204,610,481	1,329,630	286,124,205	19,164,572	87,997,727
Nuevo Italiano	495,588	21,939,309	1,165,946	191,107,914	546,229	3,832,271
Popular Argentino	217,199	7,973,826	3,229	14,128,990	160,874	3,229,800
Popular Italiano						
Provincia de Buenos Aires	1,601,829	56,265,414	1,015,748	48,351,430	524,654	17,215,095
Total	27,660,970	726,997,077	37,890,804	735,520,948	39,580,616	247,913,453

EXPORTS, FIRST TEN MONTHS OF 1907.

Argentine shipments of native products during the first ten months of 1907 were as follows, as compared with the same period of the preceding year:

	1907.	1906.		1907.	1906.
Oxhides:					
Dry ..... No..	1,781,438	2,144,319	Maize ..... tons..	1,111,335	2,073,068
Salt ..... do....	1,398,033	1,275,075	Linseed ..... do....	758,785	449,746
Horsehides:			Flour ..... do....	107,501	100,883
Dry ..... do....	83,882	141,114	Bran ..... do....	155,506	145,276
Salt ..... do....	34,223	14,736	Pollards ..... bags..	26,553	45,972
Sheepskins ..... bales..	47,269	43,733	Oilseed ..... do....	142,984	170,651
Hair ..... do....	4,333	3,749	Hay ..... bales..	693,656	1,320,668
Tallow ..... pipes..	24,791	17,972	Quebracho ..... tons..	275,151	241,889
Do ..... casks..	71,301	58,842	Quebracho extract .. do....	46,544	46,614
Do ..... hogsheads..	12,439	3,601	Butter ..... cases..	65,712	110,001
Goatskins ..... bales..	2,080	8,226	Mutton carcasses ..... No..	2,319,957	2,492,763
Wool ..... do....	279,664	272,521	Beef ..... quarters..	1,435,561	1,673,700
Wheat ..... tons..	2,574,342	2,135,860	Oats ..... tons..	136,518	49,120

SUGAR PRODUCTION OF TUCUMAN, FIVE MONTHS OF 1907.

The statistics of the sugar production in Tucuman during five months of 1907—May, June, July, August, and September—show a decrease compared with those of the same months of 1906. The production during the months under comparison was as follows:

	1906.	1907.
	Tons.	*Tons.*
May	336	463
June	15,929	19,893
July	30,348	29,169
August	27,187	26,534
September	16,928	12,232
Total	90,728	88,291

The difference against 1907 is, therefore, of 2,437 tons. This decrease was due to the frost, which caused a great deal of damage in the plantations, an advance in the prices of sugar being a consequence thereof.

NICKEL COINAGE.

The Executive of the Argentine Republic has authorized the coinage of 2,553,781 *pesos* in nickel pieces to complete a total of 12,000,000 *pesos*.

The Minister Plenipotentiary of the Republic in London has been directed to purchase 5,000,000 disks for the 20-*centavo* pieces, 11,022,000 for the 10-*centavo* pieces, and 9,093,787 for the 5-*centavo* pieces.

GRANARIES IN THE PORT OF BUENOS AIRES.

For the purpose of avoiding the congestion of traffic in the Port of Buenos Aires, during the cereal shipping season, the Minister of Agriculture of the Argentine Republic has submitted to the National Congress a bill providing for the construction of temporary granaries with a total capacity for 100,000 tons. When the unloading of cereals can not be made directly from the cars to the ships within the twenty-four hours allowed by law the respective cargoes shall be deposited in the granaries. The loading of ships from the granaries will be made by means of elevators.

With a capacity of 100,000 tons and supposing that the maximum time allowed for storage is from fifteen to twenty days it will be practicable to deposit in said granaries during the first seven months of active shipping about 1,000,000 tons of cereal.

BRAZIL.

FOREIGN COMMERCE, NINE MONTHS OF 1907.

Statistics of the foreign commerce of Brazil for the nine months of January to September of 1907 show total imports valued at 468,559:983$ ($147,000,000) as compared with 337,984:983$ ($114,500,000) in the same months of 1906, and exports figured for 669,286:556$ ($210,500,000) as against 498,691:572$ ($168,500,000) in the corresponding period of the preceding year. An increase in imports is thus reported of over $32,000,000 and in exports of $42,000,000 for the 1907 period, and the trade balance in favor of the Republic advanced from $53,000,000 in the first nine months of 1906 to $63,000,000 in the same months of 1907.

The bulk of this trade balance is to be credited to the first seven months of the year 1907, as during August and September a shrinkage in the values of the two staples of export—coffee and rubber—caused a decline in the export lists as compared with the same months of 1906. On the other hand imports during the two months in reference continued to advance, owing to the demand for machinery and materials required for the numerous and important public works under construction in the Republic.

CUSTOMS RECEIPTS, NINE MONTHS OF 1907.

Customs receipts at the various custom-houses of the Brazilian Republic for the nine months, January–September, 1907, aggregated 218,555$000 ($72,123,150), as compared with 175,177$000 ($57,808,410) in the corresponding period of the preceding year, an increase of over $14,000,000 being thus indicated.

ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW AGRICULTURAL BANK.

According to a decree of November 28, 1907, the President of Brazil is authorized to promote the formation of a Central Agricultural Bank to provide capital and credit for agriculture, capitalized at $10,000,000 (30,000:000$000).

IMPORTS OF COTTON GOODS, FIRST HALF OF 1907.

The following figures show the imports of cotton manufactures in Brazil for the first half of 1907:

[Value in paper *milreis*.]

Goods.	Quantity.		Value.	
	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.
	Kilos.	*Kilos.*		
Cotton thread	245,804	347,498	473,088	767,558
Cottons:				
Bleached	1,053,702	927,562	2,874,990	3,021,801
Unbleached	65,540	107,817	132,096	250,930
Printed	1,052,940	1,193,388	3,649,543	4,469,341
Colored	1,125,033	1,154,917	3,762,703	5,845,570
Unspecified	1,332,033	2,169,727	4,597,908	8,284,541

CALCIUM PHOSPHATE DEPOSITS.

It is reported that in the municipal district of Rio Novo, State of Minas Geraes, extensive beds of tribasic calcium phosphate have been discovered, yielding 12½ per cent of phosphoric acid.

JAPANESE IMMIGRATION.

The government of the State of Rio de Janeiro has entered into a contract with the Japanese Emigration Company for the introduction of Japanese immigrants and the establishment of colonies at Imbe, Macahe, and Itaborahy. By the terms of the contract the company will mark and divide the lots, build the houses, and furnish the colonists with agricultural machinery and implements, as well as food, until their first crops have been harvested.

The State of Sao Paulo is also negotiating with the same company for the introduction into that State of 3,000 Japanese immigrants.

EXPORTS FROM THE PORT OF MANAOS, FIRST HALF OF 1907.

The following table gives the exports from the port of Manaos for the first half of 1907:

Articles.	Quantity.	Articles.	Quantity.
Rubber of all kinds....kilos..	5,419,766	Oxhides:	
Brazil nuts....hectoliters..	956,970	Dry....kilos..	4,216
Cacao....kilos..	42,644	Uncured....do....	136,643
Piassava....do....	8,360	Deerskins....do....	465
Heron feathers....grams..	5,816	Sheepskins....do....	84
Wood....meters..	10	Jaguarskins....do....	3
Copaaiba oil....kilos..	547		

The total value of the exports was 33,725,727 *milreis* (about $10,117,718).

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

According to information received, work is progressing rapidly on the highway connecting the seats of the three administrative divisions into which the Acre Territory has been divided—Alto Jurua, Alto Purus, and Alto Acre. The road should be completed by the end of the current year. It is being solidly built with the view of running a line of automobiles between the three points mentioned. It is calculated that the trip between Alto Jurua and Alto Purus can be made by automobile in fifteen days, and from Alto Purus to Alto Acre in two days. When completed this road will undoubtedly give a great impulse to the development of this rich territory.

By a decree of December 7, 1907, the Government has created a custom-house at Sao Francisco, in the State of Santa Catharina.

The International Radiotelegraphic Convention was approved by the Brazilian Congress on November 8, 1907.

By a decree of October 3, 1907, the railway from Passo Fundo, the terminal of the Santa Maria Railway, to the Uruguay River has been incorporated with the railways to be built and managed by the "*Compagnie Auxiliaire de Chemins de Fer au Bresil.*"

The Brazilian Government approved on November 6, 1907, the two protocols signed at Caracas on December 9, 1905, providing for the demarcation of the boundary between Brazil and Venezuela as determined by the treaty of May 5, 1859.

A decree dated November 6, 1907, approves the protocol signed on December 12, 1906, between Brazil and the Republic of Uruguay.

CHILE.

RECEPTION OF THE MINISTER OF CHILE IN THE UNITED STATES.

Señor Don ANIBAL CRUZ, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Chile near the Government of the United States, was received in his capacity as such by President ROOSEVELT on November 16, 1907. On presenting his credentials Señor CRUZ spoke as follows:

"MOST EXCELLENT MR. PRESIDENT: I have the honor to place in Your Excellency's hands two autograph letters of His Excellency the President of the Republic of Chile. One terminates the mission filled by the honorable Señor WALKER-MARTINEZ, the other accredits me in the character of Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary near Your Excellency's Government.

"The mission with which I am intrusted by my Government has for its main purpose the strengthening of the relations which happily exist between the United States and the Republic of Chile. For the accomplishment of this purpose, which constitutes the most earnest desire of the Chilean people and Government, I cherish the hope that Your Excellency will bestow upon me the benevolent reception you have vouchsafed to my predecessors.

"In the name of my Government and in my own, I form most sincere wishes for the personal happiness of Your Excellency and your collaborators and for the prosperity and greatness of the United States of America."

The reply of President ROOSEVELT was as follows:

"MR. MINISTER: I am pleased to welcome you as the newly accredited Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Chile near this Government, and to receive from your hands the letter of credence which you present in that capacity. I also accept the letter whereby your esteemed predecessor's withdrawal is announced.

"The expression of your purpose to aid in strengthening the friendly relations now existing between the United States of America

and the Republic of Chile gives me especial pleasure, and I assure you Mr. Minister that I shall be glad to extend to you by every means at my command my active assistance in maintaining and perfecting those friendly relations.

"I thank you for your kind words for myself and I beg you to convey to His Excellency President MONTT an expression of my earnest wishes for the happiness and prosperity of himself and the Chilean people. I shall take early occasion to make to His Excellency President MONTT direct acknowledgment of your predecessor's letter of recall.

"I trust that your sojurn here may be as agreeable to yourself as I feel confident it will prove satisfactory to both Governments."

TRANSANDINE RAILWAY REPORT FOR 1906.

The report of the Chilean Transandine Railway Company (Limited) for 1906, submitted to the directors on November 21, 1907, states that the first section of the line from Los Andes to Juncal, a distance of 51 kilometers (nearly 32 miles) was accepted and taken over from the contractors by the Government on June 30, 1906, and an issue of £278,100 5 per cent debentures was made to provide in part for payment for this section.

It is anticipated that the second section, from Juncal to Portillo, will be completed by February, 1908, following which the contractors will concentrate their efforts on the final section.

For the accommodation of the traveling public two stations, one at Juncal and the other at Los Andes, are under construction by the Transandine Construction Company (Limited) and the joint connecting lines of the Argentine Republic.

RAILWAY NOTES.

The "*Diario Oficial*" of September 14, 1907, contains a notice to the effect that application has been made by the Director of the "*Sociedad Francesa de Chanaral*" for permission to construct a railway from the company's foundry at Chanaral to the mines of Cerro Negro. The extent of the line will be 55 kilometers (a little over 34 miles) and will provide for the transport of from 50 to 100 tons of goods daily.

Decrees issued on September 16 authorize the following enterprises: Don DOMINGO OTAEGUI, or the company which he may represent, to construct and exploit an electric railway from the fiscal depots of the port of Valparaiso, through La Laguna, to La Placilla or Penuelas; also to construct and exploit in La Laguna Bay a wharf for the lading and unlading of goods, a dockyard, and a dry dock.

The "*Diario Oficial*" for September 27, contains a notification to the effect that the President of the Republic is authorized to hold a public competition for the construction, at a cost not exceeding $480,000, of a railway to unite the towns of Ancud and Castro in the province of Chiloe.

Wharfage and warehouse construction at Caleta de Luquen is also authorized in the same "*Diario.*"

SALT DEPOSITS OF THE REPUBLIC.

The salt deposits of Chile are said to be the greatest in the world. The Salar Grande mine in the province of Tarapaca, about 60 miles south and east of Iquique, covers an area of 80,000 acres to the depth of 25 feet. This body of salt is nearly pure and contains more than 14,000,000,000 tons, or enough to supply the world's demands for many decades. There are several other deposits in the interior that cover two or three times the area of the above.

BOUNTY FOR THE EXPORTATION OF FLAX.

The President of the Chilean Republic, under date of October 25, 1907, submitted to the National Congress a bill for the protection of the flax industry of the country, providing as follows:

"SOLE SECTION. The President of the Republic is hereby authorized to pay a bounty per metric quintal (220.46 pounds) of flax produced and manufactured in the country and exported through the custom-houses of Talcahuano, Valdivia, Puerto Montt, and Ancud.

"This bounty shall be paid for a period of twelve years in the following manner: During the first six years, 10 *pesos* of 18 pence per metric quintal of swingled flax, and 16 *pesos* of 18 pence per metric quintal of dressed flax, and during the six remaining years, 6 *pesos* of 18 pence per metric quintal of swingled flax and 8 *pesos* per metric quintal of dressed flax.

"The total amount of the bounties thus paid shall not exceed 100,000 *pesos* in the first four years, 150,000 *pesos* in the following four years, and 200,000 *pesos* in the remaining years.

"Persons desiring to enjoy the benefits of this law shall comply with the conditions prescribed by the President of the Republic."

TREASURY LOAN FLOATED.

On September 16, 1907, the Chilean Government, represented by its Minister Plenipotentiary in London, entered into a contract with Messrs. N. M. ROTHSCHILD & SONS for the floating of the loan of £1,100,000, which will be issued in treasury bonds payable at the banking house of said firm in London, on March 24, 1909.

PARCELS POST, 1902—1906.

According to official data recently received from Chile, the increase of the importation of parcels post during the five years from 1902 to 1906 was as follows:

Year.	Value of parcels post received.	Revenues derived.
	Pesos.	*Pesos.*
1902	662,381	135,463
1903	839,742	118,902
1904	893,446	194,752
1905	877,869	300,421
1906	1,112,965	349,803

CUSTOMS REVENUES, FIRST EIGHT AND NINE MONTHS OF 1907.

The custom-houses of the Chilean Republic collected during the first eight months of the year 1907 a total revenue of 70,117,153.75 *pesos* ($23,372,384.58), as against 61,839,696.89 *pesos* ($20,613,232.29) collected in the same period of 1906, an increase of 8,277,456.86 *pesos* ($2,759,152.29). The sum collected in August, 1907, was 9,082,-241.81 *pesos* ($3,024,080.27), compared with 6,782,166.82 *pesos* ($2,260,722.27) in the same month of 1906.

The revenue collected during the first nine months of 1907 amounted to 78,371,977.96 *pesos* ($26,123,992.65), as compared with 68,963,-529.72 *pesos* ($22,987,843.24) of the same months of 1906, an increase of 9,408,448.24 *pesos* ($3,136,149.41). In the month of September, 1907, the revenue collected was 8,254,824.21 *pesos* ($2,418,274.73), as against the sum of 7,123,832.83 *pesos* ($2,341,277.61) in the same month of 1906.

COLOMBIA.

STATUS OF THE RUBBER INDUSTRY.

United States Consul Isaac A. Manning, of Cartagena, Colombia, makes the following statements in regard to the rubber industry in the Republic:

There is but little increase in the output of rubber in Colombia, though the establishment of plantations is extending. Reliable parties state that along the river Bando there are 400,000 rubber trees, and 200,000 trees along the Arquia. In the Sinu Valley there are said to be at least 1,000,000 trees in plantations and of these only a very small number are yet being tapped. When all these rubber plantations reach the age when the trees can be tapped, the output of Colombia will not be so dependent on the wild trees and the Indian rubber hunter. The Government is also taking precautions to protect the

wild rubber in the forests and thus prevent the total destruction of the wild trees, which are now frequently cut down and "sapped" to the last drop or tapped and allowed to bleed so long that the tree dies for lack of sap.

Many new experiments are being tried, and among them is that of planting small trees, cutting them down annually and pressing the rubber from them, allowing the stump to remain and resprout. Thus a great many trees may be planted on a small tract of ground, making cultivation easy, but the results are yet to be determined. There is a question whether the rubber is of equal quality with that of the mature tree, or whether the yield will be sufficient to make it a profitable business. The outcome of this experiment is being watched with interest by other rubber planters.

The question of yield per tree of the planted rubber is yet an open one. Under a general questioning, rubber planters will promise a pound of rubber to the tree, but a planter who has charge of a large plantation on the Sinu River, and who has just tapped 14,155 trees, approximately 8 years old, and including some old trees of the natural forest, reports a yield of 1,121 pounds of clear, dry, pressed rubber. From this result the yield of a rubber tree after it has reached its eighth year, where tapping is carefully made with a view to preserving the life of the tree, is estimated at 4 ounces of pure, clear rubber. This rubber was treated by straining to take out all foreign substance, then coagulated in water, and pressed carefully, so that as much of the water as possible was taken out. It was then dried for a week, with the foregoing result.

Other planters who seem to estimate results on what the wild rubber has been known to yield, insist that the yield from a fully grown or an 8-year-old rubber tree should be, if properly developed and cared for, at least a full pound of dry, pure rubber. In Colombia, at least, this is all matter for further study and experimentation.

The exports of rubber from the port of Cartagena during the past five years have at least added to the income of the country, having been 666,170 kilograms from January 1, 1903, to October 1, 1907, slightly more than one-half going to the United States. The total shipments for 1906 were 159,580 kilograms, and in the first nine months of 1907, 136,680 kilograms.

THE COTTON INDUSTRY AT CARTAGENA.

United States Consul Isaac A. Manning, of Cartagena, reports that under the protective duty of 34 cents American gold per kilogram (2⅕ pounds) on cotton goods of the character manufactured by the *Fabrica de Tejidos de Cartagena*, that factory seems to be prospering.

The plant occupies a ground space of 58,126 square feet, the factory being one story, and gives employment generally to 160 employees, all natives of this country, including the superintendent and chief engineer. The factory consumes only Colombian cotton, and its present output is 1,000 pieces (40 yards each) per month of cotton drill. The machinery is all of English make, with the exception of one American cotton gin. There are 6,116 spindles, and 104 looms, and the factory consumes about 80,000 kilograms of ginned cotton per annum.

The cotton is produced principally in the Department of Bolivar, the factory paying 2½ to 4 cents per pound, delivered, for the unginned cotton, which makes the cost about 12 cents American gold per pound for the ginned cotton. The cotton seed is exported principally to England, while the cloth is sold entirely in Colombia. The drill sells for an average of 9 cents per yard, which means a total output of $40,000 to $45,000 per annum.

The laborers are principally women and girls, although some men and boys are also employed. The average wage is 40 to 50 cents per day. The factory has a total daily capacity of 2,000 yards, although it never runs to its full capacity, closing down at night. The factory is prepared to turn out shirtings, muslins (unbleached), and other cotton goods of this character, but it finds the drill the most profitable.

Notwithstanding the output of the local factory and of two others in the interior of the country the importation of cotton cloths of all kinds through this port during the half year ended June 30, 1907, reached the amount of 493,825 kilograms in weight, of which 263,952 came from England, and 185,425 from the United States, the rest from Italy (25,383), Germany (9,061), Spain (6,633), and France (3,371).

REGULATIONS FOR THE NAVIGATION OF COLOMBIAN RIVERS.

The new regulations governing the navigation of the Magdalena and other Colombian rivers as recently promulgated provide for the payment, among other charges on navigation, of $2 gold per ton on foreign goods and $1 on native goods. Provisions are exempted from payment of the duty in question.

FREE ENTRY FOR CORN AND RICE.

In accordance with a decree of the President of the Colombian Republic dated December 5, 1907, the free importation of maize and rice at Atlantic ports is extended until May 1, 1908. This measure is taken as a result of the shortage of the crops in reference throughout the Republic, owing to the ravages of the locusts. A subsequent decree declares the provisions effective from February 1, 1908.

THE FISHING INDUSTRY AND ITS POSSIBILITIES.

Regarding various marine supplies of the Colombian coast, United States Consul MANNING writes from Cartagena, that the opportunities for deep-sea fishing on this part of the Colombian coast seem well worthy of consideration, especially if it be true that the supply of deep-sea fish hardly equals the demand in the United States. Green turtles are found here in large numbers and are constantly on sale in the local market. They are said to be of excellent quality, but no effort is made to export them. The fish market of Cartagena is famous, and displays as delectable fishes as are taken from the sea at any place in the world. It is claimed that on the fishing banks here are found great quantities of Spanish mackerel, jewfish, red snapper, tarpon, and many other valuable market fishes. There was at one time a fish cannery here, which achieved but little success, probably through poor management, etc. With the establishment of a cold storage plant at Cartagena, now under concession, fish could be easily shipped to the markets of the United States by immediate transfer from the cold storage here to cold storage aboard ship.

The bay of Cartagena is rich in sponge beds and the local fishers for sponges find some fine in quality and large in size. These are taken and handled in a crude way by the "bumboat" men only, and sold alongside vessels in the harbor, no effort being made to export them in a businesslike manner. The same may be said of the great quantities of mother-of-pearl found here, and some practical effort to develop this industry might be successful. Lobsters abound and are said to be of excellent quality. A small oyster is taken in the bay, but it has little value as a food product and no merchantable value.

The hawkbill turtle, "sea tortoise," or, as locally known, "carey," is found in abundance, and local venders are to be seen alongside every ship arriving offering articles for sale made from this shell. Combs, hair ornaments, etc., are made in fancy and fantastic shapes, and the coloring and marking of the shell in some cases is beautiful. Little of this is exported, although it seems that a practical effort to develop this trade or industry would be profitable.

TARIFF MODIFICATIONS.

Government decrees modifying tariff duties in Colombia from January 4, 1907, to May 10, 1907, were as follows:

["*Diario Oficial*" No. 12844, of January 12, 1907.]

By virtue of the present resolution, St. Raphael wine shall be comprised in Class IV of the tariff, by assimulation to red wines.

[*"Diario Oficial"* No. 12849, of January 18, 1907.]

Wooden rollers with perforated paper, for pianolas and other like instruments, are included in Class VI of the tariff as parts of organs and pianos.

[*"Diario Oficial"* No. 12849, of January 18, 1907.]

Articles manufactured in the country with foreign raw materials, or abroad with Columbian raw materials, can not be considered as national products.

[*"Diario Oficial"* No. 12860, of January 28, 1907.]

Articles manufactured in the country with foreign raw materials manufacture are exempt from import duty, i. e., phosphides and superphosphate of lime, namely, phosphate treated with sulphuric acid; potash salts, namely, chloride of potash, known in industry as muriate of potash, sulphate of potash, and kainite; nitrated fertilizers, namely, nitrate of soda and sulphate of ammonia, calciocyanamide or cyanamide of lime, also called nitrogenated lime; sulphate and bisulphide of carbon, and bitumen or varnish for waterproof cardboard, or tropenol.

ART. 2. Fencing wire is exempted from the surtax of 70 per cent; but this shall only be applied by tenths, in conformity with the provisions of article 205 of the Constitution.

Paragraph. Subsection 3 of the sole article of the decree No. 1026, of August 28, 1906, is repealed by article 1 of the present decree.

[*"Diario Oficial"* No. 12891, of March 2, 1907.]

Duty-free admission of samples covers not only samples of tissues in small cuttings, but also all goods such as paper, cardboard, leather, enameled iron, sheet glass, whether tinned or not, save that the same must be imported in very small pieces; that they can not, in the opinion of the customs administrator, be used for any purpose whatever, and that, in conformity with the tariff, they are not to enter in a quantity exceeding 25 kilograms.

[*"Diario Oficial"* No. 12827, of February 6, 1907.]

SOLE ARTICLE. From the date of publication of the present decree of Barranquilla for use in connection with the electric lighting, the public market, and the numbering and designation of the streets of the said town are exempted from payment of import duty.

Paragraph. The materials referred to shall be also exempted from payment of the tax.

[*"Diario Oficial"* No. 12880, of February 19, 1907.]

SOLE ARTICLE. From the date of publication of the present decree, customs duties on the importation of goods through the port of Tumaco shall be paid in silver at the standard of 0.835.

Paragraph. The present decree, which shall be communicated to the administrator of customs at Tumaco by telegraph, does not affect decree No. 717, of June 16, 1906, under which the duties applicable to goods imported at Pasto are leviable in silver.

[" *Diario Oficial* " No. 12926, of April 18, 1907.]

SOLE ARTICLE. Pending the circulation of gold throughout the country in accordance with the provisions of the law No. 59 of 1905, importation of national and foreign silver coins of the standard of 0.900 is allowed through the ports of Tumaco, Buenaventura, Ipiales, Arauca, and Cucuta, provided they have not ceased to be legal tender.

Paragraph. The provisions of articles 14 and 16 of the law No. 59 of 1905, are suspended from and after the date of publication of the present decree in the " *Diario Oficial.*"

[" *Diario Oficial* " No. 12931, of April 24, 1907.]

ARTICLE 1. From and after the publication of the present decree, the export duties on precious metals may also be paid to the departmental administrations of the reorganized revenue.

ART. 2. Certificates of payment, issued by administrators of the reorganized revenue, will be accepted as evidence by the customs authorities.

ART. 3. Firms or persons exporting gold, silver, or platinum shall duly produce to the proper office of the reorganized revenue triplicate manifests containing the following particulars:

1. Marks on the cases, " *portes*," gold bars or ingots which are being exported.
2. Number and quantity of the packages, and numbers thereon, which are to be different for each package.
3. Name of the exporter and of the consignee.
4. Place of destination of the shipment.
5. Kind of metal, stating its weight according to the metrical system.
6. Amount for which the consignment is insured or the commercial value thereof.

ART. 4. Article 3 of decree No. 1328, dated November 16, 1905, is completed accordingly.

[" *Diario Oficial* " No. 12938, of May 2, 1907.]

Whereas the import duties on goods introduced through the Buenaventura and Tumaco custom-houses are lower than those paid at Barranquilla, and whereas owing to the facilities of transport with minor charges and customs duties, goods introduced via Buenaventura and Tumaco can be conveyed to the Departments of Tolima and Huila and compete with those imported through Barranquilla, to

the detriment of the customs revenue and of commerce: now it is hereby decreed as follows:

ARTICLE 1. Goods conveyed from the Departments of the Cauca and Nariño to or across the Departments of Tolima and Huila shall be considered as contraband.

* * * * * * *

ART. 3. The present decree shall become operative a fortnight after its publication in the "*Diario Oficial*."

["*Diario Oficial*" No. 12940, of May 4, 1907.]

ART. 9. Natural or manufactured products of either of the two Republics going out through the ports of the other shall not, on exportation, pay other or higher duties of any description or denomination, be they national, municipal, or local, than those which are or may be levied on exportation of like natural or manufactured products of the Republic through whose ports they are exported.

ART. 10. No natural or manufactured product of either of the two Republics shall be prohibited to be imported into or exported from any ports of the other, but this liberty of importation does not include such articles as are or may be subject to monopoly, or the production or sale of which is or may be reserved by law in favor of the Government of either Republic, said articles being also prohibited if originating from other countries.

ART. 11. Products and manufactures of both Republics legally allowed to be dealt in, or the production or sale of which is not or should not be reserved by law in favor of the Government of either country—said products and manufactures being also prohibited if originating from other countries—shall not pay any national or municipal tax on exportation or importation across the respective land frontiers; nor shall such articles pay, on account of transport or consumption in the place of sale, other or higher duties or taxes, be they national, municipal, or local, than are or may be levied on national products or manufactures of the same kind. In other words, neither of the two countries shall levy export duties upon its natural products, including cattle ("*semovientes*") or on manufactured products exported to the other country, nor submit to import duties products of the same kind originating from the other country.

As mentioned above, the mutual exemption granted in the present clause does not extend to articles subject to Government *regie* or monopoly in either of the two countries.

ART. 12. Natural or manufactured products of foreign nations imported from one of the two countries into the other shall pay the duties respectively chargeable thereon under the general tariff.

1. Dr. Antonio Bátres Jáuregui, of Guatemala.
2. Don Enrique C. Creel, Ambassador and Representative of Mexico.
3. Don Luis Anderson, of Costa Rica, President of the Conference.
4. Mr. William I. Buchanan, Representative of the United States.
5. Dr. Salvador Gallegos of Salvador.
6. Don Joaquín B. Calvo, of Costa Rica.
7. Don Federico Mejía, of Salvador.
8. Don Policarpo Bonilla, of Honduras.
9. Dr. Luis F. Corea, of Nicaragua.
10. Don Víctor Sánchez-Ocaña, of Guatemala.
11. Dr. Angel Ugarte, of Honduras.
12. Dr. José Madriz, of Nicaragua.
13. Dr. E. Constantino Fiallos of Honduras.
14. Dr. Salvador Rodríguez, of Salvador.

THE REPRESENTATIVES OF MEXICO AND THE UNITED STATES, AND DELEGATES OF THE FIVE CENTRAL AMERICAN REPUBLICS AT THE PEACE CONFERENCE HELD IN WASHINGTON, NOVEMBER, 1907.

["*Diario Oficial*" No. 12940, of May 4, 1907.]

Permission is granted to commercial travelers to reexport their samples through any custom-house convenient to them, on compliance with the following formalities:

1. The customs administrators shall fix the import duties applicable to samples imported by commercial travelers, and suspend collection of the duties on being furnished with a bond guaranteeing the payment of the rates to the customs in case the samples should not be reexported by the commercial traveler within twelve months.

2. The commercial travelers shall keep the customs account showing the import duties leviable on the samples imported by them, and exhibit the document to the head of the customs at the port selected for exporting the same, and thus enable him to verify whether the samples produced are the same as those described in the import statement.

3. After verifying the weight of the samples, and satisfying himself as to the identity thereof, the customs administrator will cancel the bond furnished, and, if the samples are not to be reexported through the same port as the place of importation, the said official shall advise the administrator of the custom-house of entry of the samples to enable him to cancel the bond.

4. Failing the samples being reexported within the prescribed time, the customs administrator shall proceed to collect the import duties payable thereon.

["*Diario Oficial*" No. 12944, of May 10, 1907.]

SOLE ARTICLE. The date of entry into operation of decree No. 476, of April 22, 1907, in reference to contraband, is postponed until January 1, 1908.

COSTA RICA.

RECEPTION OF THE SPECIAL MINISTER OF COSTA RICA TO THE UNITED STATES.

Señor Don LUIS ANDERSON, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Costa Rica, on a special mission near the Government of the United States, was received in his capacity as such by President ROOSEVELT on November 12, 1907. On presenting his credentials Señor ANDERSON spoke as follows:

"MR. PRESIDENT: It is due to Your Excellency's generous mediation and that of His Excellency the President of the United Mexican States that a congress of plenipotentiaries from the five Central American Republics will shortly assemble in this capital city on behalf of civilization and the happiness of those countries, for the

purpose of bringing to a close their past differences and of securing forever the blessings of a stable peace, under whose protecting wing they may continue their onward march toward the realization of the magnificent destinies that the virtues of their citizens and their natural resources have insured for them.

"Costa Rica, which has the deepest affection for her Isthmian sisters and lives with them in perfect peace and harmony, feels a great sense of gratitude and appreciation for that noble and humanitarian suggestion, because Costa Rica believes it to be the surest means of securing to all the Central American Republics the peace which she now enjoys and which is the key to her present prosperity.

"My Government having honored me with the appointment of delegate to the Peace Conference, the President, Señor GONZÁLES VÍQUEZ, has desired to take advantage of my presence in this capital, entrusting me with the special mission, to me both gratifying and signally honorable, of bringing to this noble nation and its illustrious Chief Executive the cordial greetings of the people and the Government of Costa Rica.

"The marvelous development of the United States which astonishes the world, their ever-growing prosperity and the welfare of their people, whose destiny is felt in the destiny of the human race, are the outcome of that worship for liberty and right that the founders of the Republic planted in the heart of the American people. It is this worship taken from your institutions and brought to our countries which constitutes the keystone of American confraternity under whose shadow all the nations of the New World live and thrive, love and respect one another. It is for the sake of that liberty and justice that we desire that the ties which bind together little and free Costa Rica with the powerful North American nation should grow ever close.

"In placing in Your Excellency's hands the letter accrediting me as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary in special mission near the Government of Your Excellency, it is a most pleasant duty to convey to Your Excellency the expression of the sentiment of affection and gratitude which the Costa Rican nation has for the people and the Government of the United States of America, and their best wishes for Your Excellency's personal welfare."

The reply of President ROOSEVELT was as follows:

"MR. MINISTER: It gives me great pleasure to receive you as the accredited Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Costa Rica on special mission to the United States, the more so when that mission has for its object the doing of your part to bring about a lasting peace and true brotherhood among the peoples of Central America.

"I appreciate your acknowledgment of the share which this Government, conjointly with that of Mexico, has had in bringing about the conference that is soon to assemble in this city, and I cordially reciprocate the greetings of the people and Government of Costa Rica which President VÍQUEZ has asked you to convey to the people and Government of the United States.

"The maintenance of peace and prosperity among the nations of Central America and the promotion of friendly intercourse and neighborliness between them and this nation have ever been dear to the people and Government of the United States, and if the work of the conference shall result in making those desirable aims more certain of realization we shall all be entitled to a share in the glory of the achievement.

"Mr. Minister, your fame and the zeal and ability that you have brought to the service of your country are known to me, and I am confident that those same qualities will be applied by you in the conference toward the attainment of the holy purposes that have given origin to it.

"In conclusion, I beg you, Mr. Minister, to convey to President VÍQUEZ my best wishes for His Excellency's personal welfare."

ESTABLISHMENT OF AGRICULTURAL BOARDS.

For the purpose of promoting the development of agriculture in the Republic, the President of Costa Rica, in a decree dated December 2, 1907, has ordered the establishment of agricultural boards in the different cantons, except San José. These boards shall be composed of seven members and are placed under the control of the National Society of Agriculture. Their general powers and duties tend to the promotion and development of agriculture in their respective cantons.

LEGISLATION REGARDING BANANA EXPORTS.

Mr. WILLIAM LAWRENCE MERRY, United States minister to Costa Rica, writes from San José in regard to the export duty of 1 cent gold on each bunch of bananas, which was authorized by a recent law enacted in that Republic, that the large growing and shipping interest involved declines acceptance, mainly owing to certain changes which may affect the validity of its concessions. The minister adds that "the law having been enacted subject to such acceptance within sixty days, the relations of the parties in interest remain as before, and there is at present no indication that Congress will be convened to reconsider the question."

IMPORTATION OF CRUDE OIL.

The Government of the Republic of Costa Rica, under date of December 5, 1907, entered into a contract with the United Fruit Company whereby the latter agrees to import into the country such quantities of crude oil as may be sufficient for the consumption thereof in the Republic. The company shall sell the oil thus imported with a profit not exceeding 10 per cent on its cost. During the term of the contract, which is twenty-five years, the importation of crude oil shall be free of duty.

CULTIVATION AND MANUFACTURE OF FIBERS.

On December 7, 1907, a contract was entered into between the Government of Costa Rica and Messrs. M. PERALTA and H. E. BRYANT, whereby the latter parties shall organize a stock company with a capital of $100,000 gold, which may be increased to $500,000 gold. The object of the company is the cultivation and manufacture of fibers. During the term of the contract the company must cultivate 500,000 plants. One year after the approval of the contract by the legislative power, the concessionaires shall establish in the canton of Paraiso a complete plant for the manufacture of cordage, hats, textiles, sacks, etc. The company shall manufacture in the country fibers produced on its plantations and by private persons and shall sell all its products in the country, being permitted to export only the excess production. The Government guarantees to the concessionaires an annual earning of 6 per cent on the capital of $100,000. The concessionaires shall make a deposit of $5,000 to guarantee the fulfillment of the conditions of the contract.

CUBA.

CENSUS OF THE REPUBLIC, 1907.

According to the census taken in 1907, the report of which was submitted in December to the Provisional Governor of Cuba by the Director-General of the Census, the population of the Republic is 2,028,282, which is thus distributed among the different provinces, the figures of the census taken in 1899 being also given by way of comparison:

Province.	1899.	1907.
Pinar del Rio	173,082	240,781
Havana	424,811	518,524
Matanzas	202,462	239,866
Santa Clara	356,537	457,897
Camaguey	88,237	117,432
Oriente	327,716	453,782
Total	1,572,845	2,028,282

IMMIGRATION DURING 1906–7.

According to figures recently published by the Statistical Division of the Department of Finance of the Cuban Republic, the number of immigrants arriving in the ports of the island during the fiscal year 1906–7 was 29,572, of which 23,831 were men and 5,741 women. The grand total is thus distributed among the different nationalities:

Spaniards	22,178	South Americans	143
British	2,044	Mexicans	132
Americans	1,907	Scandinavians	100
Porto Ricans	707	Greeks	81
Other West Indians	953	Austrians	36
Syrians	294	Portuguese	26
French	281	Oriental Indians	26
Turks	264	Dutch	25
Italians	215	Others	86
Arabians	182		

Comparing the total of 1906–7 with that of 1905–6 a decrease is observed against the former of 23,080, the number arriving in 1905–6 being 52,652.

HAVANA CUSTOM-HOUSE RECEIPTS, 1907.

According to figures published in "*The Lucha*" of Havana for January 2, 1908, the customs receipts at the port of Havana for the year ending December 31, 1907, amounted to $20,005,048.12. For the preceding year total receipts of $18,511,296.07 are recorded.

APPROPRIATION FOR SANITARY SERVICE.

A recent decree of the Provisional Governor of Cuba appropriates $350,000 for the sanitation service in the various municipalities of the Republic and for the taking of precautionary measures against yellow fever.

CUSTOMS DECISIONS IN REGARD TO LOST MERCHANDISE.

The "*Gaceta Oficial*" for October 19, 1907, publishes a circular to the effect that customs duties shall be collected only on merchandise actually imported into and discharged in Cuba, and not on merchandise lost on the voyage or off lighters, even though such merchandise appear on the manifest or bill of lading. All circulars opposed to this ruling are withdrawn.

CARGOES CONSIGNED "FOR ORDERS."

Provisional Governor CHARLES E. MAGOON on November 7, 1907, signed the following decree:

"That the master of a vessel laden exclusively either with coal, salt, tiles or bricks of clay for building purposes, consigned to one

consignee, arriving at a port of Cuba 'for orders,' may be permitted to destine such cargo or determine its disposition 'for orders,' upon entering the vessel at the custom-house, and, within fifteen days afterwards and before the unloading of any part of the cargo, to amend the manifest by designating the actual port of discharge of such cargo. In the event of failure to designate the port of discharge within fifteen days such cargo must be discharged at the port where the vessel entered."

TRADE OF BANES AND NIPE, 1907.

In reviewing the trade of Banes and Nipe, Cuba, for the fiscal year 1907, United States Consular Agent GEORGE BAYLISS, of Antilla, says in part:

"The total exports to the United States amounted to $4,885,212 (which includes returned American goods worth $10,465), an increase of $2,913,257, or 150 per cent, over the fiscal year 1906. Of the total amount, Banes exported articles valued at $2,047,805 and Nipe $2,837,406 worth. The increase in commerce was mainly due to the opening of Nipe as a port of entry August 1, 1906.

"There has been a slight increase over the previous fiscal year in the exportation of bananas, notwithstanding that the United Fruit Company, at Banes, which was the largest exporter of bananas from Cuba, has ceased the culture of this particular fruit and has planted instead sugar cane, because of the latter being a more profitable crop. The banana industry should extend itself in Cuba, as the soil and climate are particularly adapted to the growing of this fruit. The cost of cultivating a *caballería* of land (33⅓ acres), as given by the Cuban agricultural department, for five years is $4,894. The land should produce 37,000 bunches of bananas, worth on an average 31 cents per bunch, delivered at the steamer, which would make the gross sales amount to $11,470.

"There has been a large increase in the exportation of cedar logs and boards. The exports of pineapples and citrus fruits have also largely increased. The only exports to countries other than the United States were a few cargoes of cedar to Germany and 2,129,568 gallons of crude molasses, valued at $49,988, to the Netherlands.

"The articles of export to the United States from Banes and Nipe during the fiscal year 1907 were as follows:

Articles.	Value.	Articles.	Value.
Bananas	$493,881	Oranges	$2,335
Boards, cedar	56,502	Pineapples	17,003
Hard woods	9,293	Sugar	3,732,316
Hides	6,479	Other articles	273,297
Mahogany	21,871		
Molasses	272,235	Total	4,885,212

"The total imports into Banes and Nipe during the fiscal year 1907 amounted to $1,932,901, of which the United States furnished articles worth $1,821,439; the United Kingdom, $105,169; Germany, $6,025; and other countries, $268."

ECUADOR.

A NATIONAL EXPOSITION IN QUITO.

President ALFARO on October 31, 1907, issued a decree providing for the celebration of a National Exposition, on a large scale, at Quito to begin on August 10, 1909. This date is the centennial anniversary of the rising for independence in South America, called in the Spanish "*El Grito de Independencia*," (The Cry for Independence) of August 10, 1809. The exposition is to be commemorative of the event.

The decree provides for the building upon public land, convenient to the capital city, one large public building, or national pavilion, together with a number of smaller buildings suitable for the exposition. The municipal council of the city of Quito will provide for a magnificent parkway leading to the exposition grounds. The preparatory work of organization and installation will be under the direction of a central committee in Quito composed of 30 citizens chosen for this purpose by the Government, which committee will elect from among themselves a board of directors. In addition, each of the provinces of the Republic, through the Government itself, will constitute a local committee to be subordinate to the central committee.

The object of the exposition, aside from the commemorative and historical features thereof, is to provide an exhibition of the products, commerce, industry, arts, and finance of Ecuador. There is to be established a special section illustrating the school system of Ecuador.

Perhaps the most important section of the exposition will be the section devoted to forestry and forest productions. In this will be shown the native woods of Ecuador, particularly the several species of the rubber tree, the method of extracting rubber, and its preparation for the market. Cultivation of the rubber trees, to which particular attention has been paid in Ecuador, will be fully illustrated. Exhibits will be made of the dyewoods and barks of trees and other plants having agricultural properties and of the trees suitable for lumber.

There will be exhibits illustrating the ordinary branches of agriculture, such as grain raising, the cultivation of textile fiber plants and fruits, the manufacture of sugar and spirits, and the making of wine.

A special effort will be made to illustrate the silk industry with a view of more extensively introducing the raising of the silk worm in Ecuador. For this purpose exhibits will be secured from China, Japan, India, Madagascar, France, Italy, Spain, Hungary, and the United States.

The cattle industry, one of the most important in Ecuador, as well as in many of the other South American Republics, will receive special attention. Progress made in the breeding of pure blooded cattle and the improvement of the native breeds will receive special attention.

There will be a section of fisheries, another of mining, another of railroads.

The Government of Ecuador offers the sum of 10,000 *sucres* as prizes for the best literary production upon patriotic and historical subjects.

While the exposition is intended to be national, a cordial invitation is extended to foreign countries to participate therein and arrangements will be made for letting space and for handling and housing foreign exhibits.

GUATEMALA.

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS.

An interesting pamphlet issued by Señor Victor Aguilar Peláez, Consul of the Republic of Guatemala in Liverpool and Manchester, gives the following information concerning the resources and present economic conditions prevailing throughout the country:

"The imports, whose value in 1906 amounted to $7,220,759 (gold), consist of almost every kind of foreign manufacture, and machinery, woolen, cotton, silk, and linen textiles, hats, provisions, wines and liquors, preserved foods, porcelain, crockery, glassware, ironware, haberdashery, pianos, carriages, billiards, musical instruments, pictures, varnishes, medicines, perfumes, jewelry, precious stones, fancy goods, etc. The foregoing articles are furnished by the following countries, in the order of their importance: United States, Germany, England, France, Italy, Spain, Belgium, Switzerland, Austria, Holland, Japan, China, Mexico, Peru, Chile, and the other Republics of Central America.

"Exports, valued in 1906 at $7,136,271 (gold), consist chiefly of coffee, sugar, bananas, woods, leathers, india rubber, medicinal plants, fruits, etc. The leading article of export—coffee—is shipped to the amount of about 50,000 tons and is classified as "fine" on the world's exchanges. Countries to which shipment of goods is made include the United States, Germany, England, France, Italy, Austria-Hungary, Spain, Belgium, Chile, and others.

"Foreign trade is developing and it is anticipated that the opening of the inter-oceanic railway route from San José on the Pacific to Puerto Barrios on the Atlantic, a distance of 269 miles, will greatly facilitate the transport of native products to the seaboard.

"The railways in present exploitation are the Central, the Western, Ocos, Verapaz, and Guatemala lines, and the opening of the Northern is scheduled for the month of December, 1907.

"The productions of Guatemala are abundant and varied to an extraordinary extent. In the vegetable kingdom are seen all kinds of plants, flowers, and fruits belonging to the torrid and temperate zones. There are in the country rich mines of gold, silver, copper, iron, lead, zinc, antimony, coal, marble, sulphur, mica, etc.

"Agriculture, however, constitutes the principal source of wealth, and to its exploitation are devoted the greater part of the invested capital. Owing to the extraordinary richness of the soil fertilizers are not required and irrigation is rendered unnecessary by the abundant moisture even in the so-called dry season.

"In certain of the coast regions two or three crops can be obtained annually of the local products. Large plantations of coffee, sugar cane, cocoa, bananas, cereals, etc., are found, while in the northern departments many national and foreign companies are engaged in the exploitation of the forest products, comprising an abundance of fine woods, principally mahogany and cedar. Rubber planting is also being carried on with satisfactory results.

"Manufactures have attained a noticeable degree of excellence in various articles. Certain woolen and cotton textiles, furniture, and footwear of native manufacture equal in quality the imported varieties. Other items of local production are hats, saddles, fiber articles, textures of rushes, earthenware articles, pieces of sculpture, musical instruments, soap, candles, cigars, cigarettes, cheese, butter, beer, mineral waters, ice, brandy, etc. Native workmen display much aptitude in learning new crafts and raw materials are varied and excellent.

"The area of the Republic is 125,000 square kilometers, and the population numbers 2,000,000 inhabitants, the density being 16 per square kilometer.

"The physical aspect of Guatemala is mountainous but well watered. The climate varies according to height above sea level; on the coasts it is hot, on the central plateaus temperate and agreeable, while on the heights it is cold. The so-called rainy and dry seasons are marked by the fact that during the former it rains every day, while during the latter occasional rains are usual.

"The most populous sections are the south and the west, Guatemala, the capital, containing 100,000 inhabitants. The capital is connected by rail with the Pacific and Atlantic ports of San José and

Puerto Barrios, the distance to the former being 74.5 miles, made in five hours, and to the latter 194.5, being run over in twelve hours.

"The voyage from Guatemala to the United States from Atlantic ports occupies four days and to Europe fifteen days. The Pacific coast of the Republic measures 250 kilometers and the Atlantic 161 kilometers. San José, Champerico, and Ocos are the Pacific ports and Puerto Barrios, Santa Tomas, and Livingston those of the Atlantic. Panzos, on the Rio Polochic, and Gualan, on the Rio Motagua, are river ports, while Izabel, on a lake of the same name, is also a place of importance."

INAUGURATION OF THE NORTHERN RAILWAY.

The opening of the Guatemala Northern Railway (*El Ferrocarril del Norte*), running from Puerto Barrios on the Atlantic to San José on the Pacific, was formally accomplished on January 19, 1908, on which date the first train over the line entered Guatemala City from the Atlantic.

The completion of this enterprise, which was undertaken in 1892, marks an era not only in the development of Guatemala, but also in the adjacent countries of Central America, while the port of New Orleans, in the United States, will be brought in close touch with the commerce of the western coast of Nicaragua and Salvador, saving eight days' sea voyage *via* Colon.

A new fortnightly service between New York and Puerto Barrios has also been inaugurated on the part of the United Fruit Company, in consequence of the opening of the road from ocean to ocean, the voyage requiring from eight to nine days, and wireless connection has been established with Port Limon, the center of distribution for Central American stations.

For many years the coffee crop of Guatemala has been handled by the Guatemalan Central road, leading from Guatemala City to San José del Guatemala, the port of entry on the Pacific side, and thence transferred to Pacific Mail Line ships. These shipments have gone either to San Francisco for distribution, or else down to Panama and across the Isthmus, England and Germany being the principal purchasers.

The total length of the line from ocean to ocean is 269 miles, and it was owing to difficulties in the construction of the last 60 miles of the 195 between Guatemala City and the Atlantic that the completion has been so long delayed. Remarkable feats of engineering have overcome the topographical conditions, tunnels and bridges forming connection between comparatively short stretches of straight trackage. In all, seventy bridges have been built, the two most important being a short distance from Guatemala City, one of which crosses the Las Vacas ravine, 244 feet deep.

The company under whose auspices the road was finished is headed by Sir WILLIAM VAN HORNE and Mr. MINOR C. KEITH, and the enthusiastic support of President CABRERA has aided the enterprise in every way.

The Guatemala Northern constitutes the third interoceanic railroad line across the countries of Latin America, and while it is not anticipated that traffic will be diverted from either the Tehuantepec or Panama lines, the influence upon the interior trade of Central America will, it is calculated, be enormous.

HAITI.

ESTABLISHMENT OF A CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

A Chamber of Commerce has recently been established at Port au Prince, Haiti, to further the commercial, agricultural, industrial, and maritime interests of the country. It is organized under the patronage of the Haitian Government by a presidential decree dated November 30, 1907, declaring it to be of public utility. The President of Haiti is honorary President of the Chamber and the Secretary of State and Commerce honorary vice-president.

The object of the Chamber of Commerce is to collect all information useful to commercial, industrial, agricultural, and maritime interests and to hold the same at the disposition of the interested parties; to suggest measures tending to maintain, increase, and extend the commercial, industrial, and agricultural relations of Haiti with foreign countries; to improve the condition of commerce, industry, and agriculture of the country by legislative or administrative measures relating to customs tariffs, commercial and maritime treaties, and to aid in every possible way the development of business relations of merchants, manufacturers, and farmers established at Port au Prince not only with foreign countries but with the commercial centers and interior of Haiti. The Chamber of Commerce will also urge the establishment at Port au Prince and in the principal cities of the country of a permanent exposition of the products of the soil and of the industry of the country as well as of the principal articles imported from abroad; of a similar exposition of Haitian products in the Haitian consulates and commercial, industrial, and agricultural museums abroad.

Besides the appropriation by the Government of $1,800 American gold, the expenses of the organization will be defrayed by an annual membership fee of $5 American gold.

HONDURAS.

INCREASED TAX ON BANANA EXPORTS.

By decree of September 14, 1893, an export duty of 2 *centavos* a bunch on bananas exported from the northern ports of Honduras was established. One of the objects of this tax was to provide funds for the construction of suitable wharves at these shipping points, as the necessity for wharves at which vessels may load and unload is very great. Most of the loading and unloading is done from lighters, and as a consequence freight, and bananas in particular, are much damaged by bruising and by salt water.

Abuses in the handling of the funds derived from the export tax and the inadequacy of the tax itself was the occasion for the issue by Señor Don Miguel R. Davila, Provisional President of the Republic, on September 14, 1907, of the following decree:

"Article 1. The 2 *centavos* tax on each bunch of bananas exported established by article 1 of decree No. 30 of the 14th of September, 1893, is raised to 3 *centavos*.

"Art. 2. The funds available at the treasuries of the different municipalities derived from said tax shall be deposited in the safe of the respective custom-houses.

"Art. 3. The custom-house collectors shall in future receive the total aggregate derived from said tax, opening a special account to that end, the surplus of which shall be applied, as far as may be necessary, to the local expenses of primary education, and the payment shall be made in accordance with the budgets and pay rolls furnished by the municipalities with the approval of the governors and the remainder of the product of the tax shall be accumulated to be applied to the construction of the aforesaid wharves.

"Art. 4. The present law shall become effective on November 1st next, and the Department of the Treasury is hereby authorized to issue the necessary provisions for the compliance thereof, and the aforesaid decree No. 30 of September 14, 1893, is hereby repealed."

MEXICO.

FOREIGN COMMERCE, FIRST QUARTER OF 1907–8.

According to figures published by the statistical division of the Department of Finance and Public Credit of Mexico, the total value of imports during the three months (July to September, 1907) was 60,907,390.43 *pesos* ($30,400,000), as compared with 50,091,967.58 *pesos* ($25,000,000) in the same months of the previous fiscal year, an increase of 10,815,422.85 *pesos* ($5,400,000). The exports were valued at 64,805,036.40 *pesos* ($32,000,000), showing an increase of

11,037,235.66 *pesos* ($5,918,000) in comparison with 53,767,800.74 *pesos* ($26,883,000) during the same period of 1906–7. This increase in exports is very notable, considering the fact that they had undergone an important decrease during the fiscal years of 1905–6 and 1906–7.

The value of merchandise imported during the month of September, 1907, was 20,906,073.05 *pesos* ($10,453,000), as against 18,355,371.25 *pesos* ($9,000,000) in the same month of 1906, an increase of 2,550,701.80 *pesos* ($1,275,000). The exports in September, 1907, were valued at 20,128,669.42 *pesos* ($10,000,000), as compared with 16,343,614.52 *pesos* ($8,000,000), an increase of 3,785,054.90 *pesos* ($1,392,000).

In the following table are indicated the kinds of merchandise received during the period in reference, the classification having been made in accordance with the import tariff in force, the figures for the corresponding period of 1906–7 being given for purposes of comparison:

IMPORTS.

[Silver valuation.]

Articles.	First quarter of fiscal year—	
	1907–8.	1906–7.
	Pesos.	*Pesos.*
Animal substances	4,147,350.19	4,742,507.71
Vegetable substances	8,143,607.06	6,582,508.14
Mineral substances	20,752,353.89	16,406,850.97
Dry goods	7,473,284.68	6,255,440.90
Chemical substances	2,581,387.60	2,048,583.34
Beverages	1,731,075.51	1,650,870.01
Paper and its applications	1,547,259.52	1,255,095.48
Machinery and apparatus	8,131,511.81	6,247,155.27
Vehicles	2,531,171.39	1,709,694.06
Arms and explosives	1,079,583.84	943,147.34
Miscellaneous	2,788,804.94	2,250,114.36
Total imports	60,907,390.43	50,091,967.58

In accordance with the official export classification the articles of merchandise shipped to foreign countries during the periods in reference were as follows:

EXPORTS.

[Silver valuation.]

Articles.	First quarter of fiscal year—	
	1907–8.	1906–7.
Mineral products:	*Pesos.*	*Pesos.*
Gold	5,511,563.70	5,721,317.12
Silver	30,042,867.94	21,562,917.27
Copper	7,648,517.55	7,620,253.98
Other mineral products	1,969,955.28	1,722,495.08
Vegetable products:		
Cotton	1,073,335.75	92,204.00
Rubber	2,003,820.80	890,917.00
Fresh fruits	1,601,650.00	1,827,409.00
Henequen	6,343,167.00	6,429,097.91
Other products	5,096,250.54	4,512,183.58

EXPORTS—Continued.

Articles.	First quarter of fiscal year—	
	1907–8	1906–7
	Pesos.	*Pesos.*
Animal products	2,137,351.80	2,571,304.78
Manufactured products	729,474.47	634,366.02
Miscellaneous	647,080.57	183,335.00
Total exportation:		
Precious metals	35,554,431.64	27,284,234.39
Other articles	23,250,604.76	26,483,566.35
Grand total	64,805,036.40	53,767,800.74

Following is a résumé of the valuations of Mexican imports during the periods under comparison with reference to their countries of origin:

Country.	First quarter of fiscal year—	
	1907–8.	1906–7.
	Pesos.	*Pesos.*
Europe	23,296,795.35	18,422,402.20
Asia	436,242.33	319,894.27
Africa	25,523.73	50,785.30
North America	36,699,499.35	31,185,125.18
Central America	13,727.65	8,683.28
South America	389,632.68	43,056.61
West Indies	35,147.34	46,179.74
Oceania	10,822.00	15,841.00
Total	60,907,390.43	50,091,967.58

The United States appear in the import list at the head of all countries, the imports therefrom being valued at 36,557,312.29 *pesos* ($18,278,656.14), over half of the total value of imports.

Germany heads the list of European countries with imports valued at 7,569,413.95 *pesos* ($3,784,000), followed by Great Britain, which country formerly occupied first place, with 6,528,114.99 *pesos* ($3,264,000); France occupies the third place with 4,915,814.90 *pesos* ($2,457,000), followed by Spain with 1,867,870.81 *pesos* ($933,935.40).

The valuations of exports during the periods in reference, as regards the countries of destination, were as follows:

Country.	First quarter of fiscal year—	
	1907–8.	1906–7.
	Pesos.	*Pesos.*
Europe	19,290,042.27	16,889,725.60
Asia	500.00	
North America	44,475,372.79	35,938,320.54
Central America	228,165.95	262,272.60
South America	19,036.39	26,995.00
West Indies	791,919.00	650,487.00
Total	64,805,036.40	53,767,800.74

On the export list the United States appear also at the head, being credited with 44,402,475.79 *pesos* ($22,201,237.89) out of 64,805,036.40 *pesos* ($32,402,518.20), the total value of exports. Of the European countries, Great Britain receives the greater number of exports, her share being 9,651,701.59 *pesos* ($4,820,000), followed by Germany, with 5,523,526.99 *pesos* ($2,761,000); France, with 1,807,648.50 *pesos* ($903,000); Belgium, with 1,175,541.19 *pesos* ($587,000), and Spain, with 1,109,074 *pesos* ($554,000).

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS AND OUTLOOK, 1906–1909.

On December 14, 1907, Licenciado José Yves Limantour, Minister of Finance of Mexico, in accordance with his annual custom, sent to the National Congress the Treasury statement for the fiscal year 1906–7 and the budget statement embodying an estimate of revenue and expenditure for 1908–9, the values being in gold pesos ($0.498 U. S. currency).

The normal revenue estimate is placed at $103,385,000 and the total proposed expenditure at $103,203,824.63, leaving a revenue surplus of $181,175.37.

In commenting on the economic and financial situation of the country Minister Limantour states that at the close of 1906 it was thought that the succeeding year would be unmarked by any variation in the generally prosperous conditions prevailing throughout the Republic, which expectations have been confirmed by a material development and economic vitality indicative of continued growth and healthy vigor.

Import duties and consular fees show a considerable increase, an advance of more than 16 per cent being noted as compared with the preceding year although the tariff rates have remained unchanged. The sale of common document stamps also reveals a marked increase in the volume of internal business transactions with the added circumstance that during the course of the fiscal year 1906–7 the schedule of the stamp revenue was modified in such manner as to reduce considerably the rates payable on the greater part of the operations thus taxed.

In regard to the Federal contribution which is assessed on all taxes and all forms of revenue collected by state and municipal authorities a fair gain is also observable, thus proving a continued growth in tax collections. The demand for special stamps for the payment of the required taxes on mines, tobacco, alcoholic beverages, cotton textiles, and explosives also indicate a sustained expansion in the industries affected.

The earnings of the postal and telegraph lines show considerable growth while in the Federal District activity in real estate deals and

in commercial and industrial enterprises as a whole was greater than in previous years.

In regard to the agricultural yield of the year it is stated that returns at hand make it impossible to forecast the probable availability of the country's crops as applied to national needs. The importation of foreign corn and wheat is one of the most decisive factors in determining the status of the local money market owing to the large remittances abroad necessitated by the condition.

The production and exportation of precious metals, which with copper and lead constitute more than 95 per cent of the mineral output, is given as follows: Gold production, $36,563,898.24; gold exportation, $23,873,713.94; silver production, $77,088,827; silver exportation, $99,861,790.06. The gold output is thus shown to have remained practically stationary, while that of silver advanced by $1,483,221.73 over 1905–6. Copper and lead declined in the reported output owing to the closing down of some low-grade mines, while zinc, antimony, and various other mineral substances were mined on a larger scale.

An analysis of the figures of the foreign commerce of the country shows that imports figured for $233,363,388.85 in 1906–7 as compared with $220,004,755 in the preceding fiscal year, showing a gain of $13,358,633.85. Free goods show a falling off of $11,000,000 while dutiable articles scored a gain of more than $24,000,000.

Increased imports are noted in animal substances, textiles and manufactures thereof, chemical and pharmaceutical products, and, in general, in all the tariff groups of imported merchandise. The greatest and most significant increase is shown, however, in machinery and apparatus of all kinds, imports under this head advancing from $20,410,722.73 to $27,735,743.65, a gain of $7,325,020.92. Owing to the heavy importation of freight cars and automobiles the classification of vehicles ranks next among imports showing a marked advance, the figures for the two years being $9,000,308.49 and $4,595,157.58, respectively. The decline of $7,871,480.15 noted in regard to imports of mineral substances is largely explainable by the fact that in 1905–6 large quantities of Mexican coins were minted in the United States, and though the record for such transactions in 1906–7 amounted to $23,000,000 it was much less than that noted for the preceding year.

Export figures show a total of $248,018,010 as compared with $271,138,809.32 in 1905–6. This seeming decline in export values is explained by Minister LIMANTOUR as follows:

"In last year's budget bill it was stated that, on the assumption that $39,000,000 in gold imported in 1905–6 gave rise to an artificial exodus of silver *pesos* to an equivalent amount, the total value of exports, making allowance for this fact, was not $271,000,000, but

$232,000,000. Admitting the soundness of this reasoning in the absence of more precise data, it may be held that, inasmuch as the total exports for 1906–7, viz, $248,000,000, included no less than 13,000,000 silver *pesos* sent abroad in exchange for Mexican and foreign gold coins which in turn figure on the side of imports, the amount in question must be deducted from the exports, so that the latter may be regarded as having amounted to $235,000,000. Bearing these explanations in mind it is perceived that the exports of native goods in 1906–7 were a little in excess ($3,000,000) of the exports of 1905–6. These latter were far superior to the showing of any preceding years."

Other than gold and silver, the exports of metals for the year show the following figures: Copper, $28,800,000; lead, $3,644,739; others (including zinc and antimony), $4,072,982.

Vegetable products exported comprised henequen, $31,440,246; ixtle, $3,813,176; coffee, $7,237,529; leaf tobacco, $1,894,830; chick pease, $4,084,521; chewing gum, $2,144,724; cabinet woods, $2,169,778; dyewoods, $739,810; rubber, including guayule, $6,678,926; guayule plants, $61,225.

Foremost among the vegetable products of which the exportation has increased are: Rubber, including guayule, whose shipment began five years ago and which now exceeds $6,500,000 per year; chick pease, whose export has increased threefold in the same period; ixtle, which advanced from $3,000,000 to $3,800,000, and chicle, or chewing gum, of which the gain has been 50 per cent. Henequen remains at approximately $30,000,000 and the quantity shipped fluctuates between 82,000 tons and 110,000 tons, which was the figure reached in 1906–7. The year was not favorable to coffee, which shows a decline in exportation value of $2,000,000.

The value of animal products shipped abroad was $11,151,928, showing a decline of $571,497 as compared with the preceding year. The chief items were cattle, $1,201,693, and untanned hides, $8,875,091. The decline noted in cattle exports was owing to the closing of Cuban markets to Mexican animals and the increasing demand at home for live stock. Untanned hides constitute a line of exports that is gaining in importance yearly.

Other items of export consist of refined sugar, $1,164,339; coarse sugar, $26,612; cotton-seed meal and cakes, $846,280; palmetto hats, $631,219; tanned hides and skins, $34,883, and manufactured tobacco $493,228.

The sugar industry is becoming of increasing importance in spite of the fluctuations observable in exports of that article. Improved methods of manufacture have been introduced and the local demand has increased on account of the cheapening of the product. The tobacco industry is still subject to numerous vicissitudes, showing that the difficulties arising from Cuban competition have not yet been overcome.

From the foregoing statement Minister LIMANTOUR sums up the foreign trade balance as follows: Total imports in 1906–7, $233,363,388; total exports, $248,018,010; excess of imports, $14,654,622.

There is a great difference between this excess and that shown by the returns for the year 1905–6, which was $51,134,054, and also, though on a lesser scale, between said excess and that noted for 1904–5, which was $30,315,489.

Commenting thereon Minister LIMANTOUR states:

"Extended explanations have been given in other years in regard to those factors which, while affecting the value of imports and exports, do not and can not figure in the fiscal statistics which only record the natural and manufactured products and the quantities in specie that arrive and depart. It has also been explained that the Mexican nation has to make very heavy payments abroad every year in the shape of interest on capital invested in the country and of profits on business enterprises whose owners reside in foreign parts, and to such payments have to be added those which are made strictly in settlement for articles imported. There can not be the smallest doubt that last year's excess of exports, amounting to over $14,000,000, was totally insufficient to meet this indebtedness. Not even the excess in 1905–6, amounting to $51,000,000, sufficed for the object in question. In order to understand this affirmation it is necessary to remember that all the bonds of our public debt, with the exception of a relatively small proportion, are held abroad and that the service of that debt calls for payments of no less than $24,000,000 in a year; that, in addition to the debt of the Federal Government, some of the States and municipalities owe debts of which the bonds are chiefly held abroad and of which the annual service amounts to not less than $1,000,000; that the railroad companies have to remit abroad more than $25,000,000 a year in payment of interest on their securities, and that the banks distribute annually millions of *pesos* in dividends outside of the Republic. All these items, plus interest and profits distributed by private concerns, amount in the aggregate to a sum far in excess of the difference in favor of exports in our international trade balance, and hence the conclusion has been reached that the balance between debit and credit, considering as such, respectively, the remittances of funds, drafts, securities, and merchandise which we have to send annually abroad and which we are entitled in turn to receive from outside, is made good year after year by the natural and spontaneous investment in Mexico of foreign capital."

The status of the various railways in operation throughout the Republic is shown to be satisfactory, increased percentages being noted in all branches of traffic. The figures for the year show passengers carried, 10,187,121, an increase of 16.7 per cent; earnings from passenger traffic, $15,942,776, an increase of 30.7 per cent; tons of

freight transported, 9,538,354, an increase of 6.4 per cent; earnings from freight transported, $53,529,981, an increase of 9.3 per cent.

The passenger increase was largest on the Mexican Central and the gain in freight traffic on the National and Mexican Central lines would have been greater had they possessed the adequate supply of rolling stock. The falling off in the tonnage returns of Tehuantepec National Railway, as compared with the freight transported in 1905–6, is explainable by the cessation of the carriage of materials for the port works at Salina Cruz and Coatzacoalcos. This is offset, however, by the increase in the rates of traffic across the Isthmus, so that a substantial gain in the earnings is reported.

The assets and liabilities of the banks of the country balanced on June 30, 1907, at $723,763,584.96, as against $628,881,834.84 on the same date of the preceding year. The subscribed capital increased from $146,600,000 on June 30, 1906, to $162,600,000 a year later, showing an increase of $16,000,000. The holdings of cash diminished by $3,583,652.51, which was undoubtedly occasioned by the withdrawal of *pesos* for shipment abroad to the amount of $13,000,000.

The foreign debt of the country was reduced in the last fiscal year by $4,289,293.94, but the interior debt was increased by the issue of 5 per cent bonds to the amount of $2,107,200 paid as subsidy to the Kansas City, Mexico and Orient, Merida and Valladolid, and Pan-American railways.

The monetary situation of the country has improved considerably since last year. The scarcity of subsidiary coins which then prevailed has altogether disappeared and the circulation of gold is much more abundant. This is in part nullified by the exportation of silver *pesos*, which was due in 1906–7 as in 1905–6 to the rise in the price of bar silver as compared with the gold value of the silver contained in the *peso*.

The total mintage of coins from the time of the installation of the monetary reform on May 5, 1905, up to June 30, 1907, was $95,561,570.70. Deducting from this amount the $75,416,231 in silver *pesos* exported and the $14,456,923.17 representing old pieces recoined, it is shown that increase in circulation of coin up to June 30, 1907, was $5,688,416.53. By the end of November, 1907, the increase had risen to more than $11,000,000.

The exchange and currency commission has discharged the functions of its office with marked ability and has succeeded in two years in replacing almost all the old currency with coins struck in accordance with the monetary law of 1905. It has distributed the new coins all over the national territory, meeting the numerous difficulties which the scarcity or abundance of the circulating medium has occasioned in each locality; it has attracted gold to the Republic in considerable quantities, retaining within the country a large proportion

of the native product, and has materially contributed toward steadying the rate of exchange with foreign nations.

During the early months of 1907 the value of real estate and the quotations of industrial, mining, and commercial securities continued to rise, and a comparison with similar quotations with those of 1906 would, in general, show satisfactory results. By the middle of the year, however, the stringency in foreign money markets began to affect the Mexican situation and capital became more and more reluctant to engage in Mexican undertakings. The fiscal year 1908–9 will suffer from this anomolous and uneasy condition, but the Mexican Republic continues to indicate strength and vitality in its public resources which place it on a satisfactory plane among the nations of the world.

In the budget estimate of revenues for the fiscal year 1908–9 taxes on foreign commerce are placed at $49,600,000; internal taxes at $32,055,000; special taxes in the Federal District and territories, $10,930,000; public services, $6,405,000; revenue from national lands, $265,000, and profits and minor sources, $4,130,000.

POSTAL REVENUES, 1906–7.

According to statistics recently published by the General Bureau of Posts of the Mexican Republic the revenues derived from the postal service during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1907, amounted to 4,031,124.86 *pesos* ($2,015,562.43), as compared with 3,653,315.87 *pesos* ($1,826,657.93) in 1905–6, an increase of 377,808.99 *pesos* ($188,904.49), or 10.34 per cent.

POSTAL REVENUES, FIRST QUARTER OF 1907–8.

The postal revenues collected in the Mexican Republic during the first quarter of the fiscal year 1907–8 (from July to September, 1907) amounted to 1,043,065.88 *pesos* ($521,532.94), as compared with 939,837.20 *pesos* ($469,918.60), an increase of 103,228.68 *pesos* ($51,614.34), or 10.98 per cent.

TRADE OF PROGRESO, YUCATAN, FIRST QUARTER OF 1907–8.

During the first three months of the fiscal year 1907–8 there were exported from the port of Progreso, Yucatan, 25,937,342 kilograms of henequen, valued at 6,323,765 *pesos* ($3,161,882.50). During the same quarter the value of national merchandise imported through said port was 3,727,500 *pesos* ($1,863,750), while the imports of foreign merchandise amounted to 2,320,773 *pesos* ($1,160,386.50).

IMPROVEMENT OF ISTHMIAN TERMINALS.

The Isthmian defense commission charged with a study of the Mexican ports of Salina Cruz and Coatzacoalcos, the Atlantic and Pacific termini of the Tehuantepec Railway, has concluded its study

of conditions at Salina Cruz and will follow up its investigation at Coatzocoalcos in the near future. It is estimated that the defense works recommended will entail an outlay of $20,000,000 Mexican. Two years must elapse before the preliminary reports and investigations will be completed and the actual constructive work begun.

Plans for constructing at Salina Cruz what shall be the largest dry dock in the world are being prepared by the Mexican Government, and Coatzacoalcos has been converted into a first-class deep-water harbor. It is the intention to equip these ports for the adequate handling of the enormous traffic induced by the opening of the Tehuantepec line. A considerable part of this traffic comes from Hawaii, sugar being shipped to New York over this route in large quantities.

The new line of steamers which a Chinese company has put on between China and Salina Cruz is expected to greatly develop this trade route. A large immigration station for Chinese is being built.

Most modern sanitary methods are adopted for the benefit of the ports, and pure drinking water is conveyed to Salina Cruz in pipes from a point 8 miles distant.

SILVER BASIS OF THE STAMP AND CUSTOM TAXES, JANUARY, 1908.

The usual monthly circular issued by the Department of Finance of the Mexican Republic announces that the legal price per kilogram of pure silver during the month of January, 1908, is $37.21 Mexican currency, according to calculations provided in the decree of March 25, 1905. This price will be the basis for the payment of the stamp tax and customs duties when silver is used throughout the Republic.

INCREASE OF IMPORT DUTIES ON SUGAR.

The President of the Mexican Republic promulgated on December 21, 1907, a law of the National Congress amending paragraph 125 of the customs tariff in force so as to increase the import duties on common rock candy, and refined sugar of all kinds from 2.50 *pesos* ($1.25) per 100 kilograms, gross weight, to 5.00 *pesos* ($2.50) per 100 kilograms, gross weight. Said law will become effective at midnight, February 15, 1908.

TURPENTINE MANUFACTURE.

A large turpentine factory has recently been put into operation in the neighborhood of Morelia, State of Michoacan, according to the "Mexican Herald" of November 4, 1907, the intention of the promoters of the enterprise being to turn out sufficient quantities of the commodity to enable Mexico to be a factor in the turpentine market. The capacity of the factory is said to be 200,000 gallons annually. The conditions for the favorable outcome of the work are highly

favorable both by reason of the large tracts of pine that abound in the State of Michoacan and the approaching completion of such railroad lines as will put the product of the factory on the market without loss of time or great expense.

LUMBER MILL IN THE STATE OF OAXACA.

The erection and operation of a fully equipped plant for the manufacture of hubs, spokes, rims, axles, and all kinds of wagon parts is to be undertaken in the State of Oaxaca by a United States company. The company has purchased 125,000 acres of land containing vast quantities of hard woods and will put up one of the most modern and complete plants in the Republic not only for the manufacture of vehicle parts but also will eventually manufacture furniture. The mill and machinery required for the enterprise has already been purchased, the mill plant to have a capacity of 100,000 feet of lumber daily.

The company desires to create a demand and market in Mexico for their entire output, but will ship and export considerable quantities to the United States and Europe, as their close proximity to Coatzacoalcos gives them great shipping advantages.

THE PETROLEUM INDUSTRY.

The "South American Journal" for November 23, 1907, states that the plant for the Mexican oil industry which is being installed by Messrs. S. Pearson & Sons is to be put into operation. The beginnings of this industry date back for several years, when experimental work was commenced by drilling on the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, and properties have since been opened up in Tabasco and Veracruz. Government concessions are held by the firm mentioned in the States of Veracruz, Tabasco, Chiapas, and Campeche, as well as in San Luis Potosi and in Tamaulipas. Over this extensive area, which represents about 1,000,000 acres, numerous indications of oil have been found, and as the result of this successful exploratory work it was decided to erect a large refinery at Minatitlan, conveniently situated on the river Coatzacoalcos 20 miles above Puerto Mexico (Coatzacoalcos), the terminal port of the Tehuantepec Railway on the Atlantic side.

This refinery and the works connected with it are rapidly nearing completion and it is expected that it will be in active operation early in 1908. The premises, which cover an area of about half a square mile, are designed to treat from 500 to 700 tons of oil per day, and both in construction and equipment have been designed on the most modern lines. From the refinery a main pipe line some 15 miles long extends into the oil fields, and from the terminus of the main line branch lines of pipe diverge to the three fields from which

at the outset the supplies of raw material will be drawn. The necessary power and pumping plant has now been installed and test runs made.

The storage tanks include two large tanks each of 6,000 tons capacity and a main storage tank in connection with the refinery itself with a capacity of 100,000 tons.

The location of the refinery at Minatitlan places it not only within a short distance of the sources of supply, but in an admirable situation to meet the requirements of transport. Ships of 6,000 to 7,000 tons capacity will be able to lie alongside the refinery, and already a steamer of 3,000 tons capacity has been built by Messrs. Pearson & Sons for the oil traffic.

The oil from these fields has a paraffin base, and is stated to produce very satisfactory percentages of motor spirit, benzine, and illuminating and lubricating oils. Mexican railway engineers are about to employ oil fuel on a large scale. The older lines, such as the Mexican and the Mexican Central, already have satisfactory experience with liquid fuel, and all the locomotives of the new Isthmian Railway have been designed for the employment of oil fuel. Some experimental employment of Mexican oil has been made, but for all practical purposes the railway companies have had to rely upon imported Texas oil, the use of which is accompanied by a high import duty.

The Mexican Oil Company (*Compañia Mexicana de Petróleo*) has at present under exploitation five wells, in all of which the oil rises to the surface; three of these wells are situated at the foot of the La Paz hill and two in the place called "La Laguna," their depth and capacity of daily production being as follows:

Well.	Depth.	Daily production.
	Meters.	*Barrels.*
No. 1, of La Paz	848	1,600
No. 4, of La Paz	896	2,800
No. 5, of La Paz	945	2,300
No. 2, of La Laguna	800	700
No. 3, of La Laguna, known as "Well of April 2nd"	680	1,000

Well No. 1 has been under exploitation for four years, and its producing capacity has not been diminished up to the present day. Well No. 3 has two concentric tubes in order that its boring may be continued without interrupting its production; it is expected that this well will be able to produce 4,000 barrels daily when it has a greater depth.

The company has at present two oil deposits, one with a capacity for 450,000 barrels and the other for 200,000 barrels. It has, besides, several steel tanks with a total capacity of 300,000 barrels. Another

deposit, which will have a capacity for 1,000,000 barrels, is being excavated. Materials for the construction of two steel tanks have already been received; these tanks will have a capacity of 56,000 barrels each, and will be erected at the station of Ebano on the Central Railroad.

Four thousand barrels of oil are delivered daily to the Central Railroad Company, and in accordance with the contract entered into therewith, this amount will be increased to 7,000 barrels. This company furnishes oil also to the navigation, packing, and electric light companies of Tampico, their average monthly consumption amounting to 1,500 barrels.

During the first six months of 1907 the company shipped to New York and Europe 2,910 tons of asphalt and 1,646 tons to different points of the Republic.

The company employs 100 skilled laborers and 300 workmen.

FREE ENTRY FOR GOODS INTO QUINTANA-ROO.

["*Diario oficial*" of June 1, 1907.]

SOLE ARTICLE. During a period of one year computed from July 1 next the decree dated June 2, 1906, prolonging the operation of decree dated May 30, 1905, shall continue to have effect. In virtue thereof foreign goods designated, to be in the future designated by the Executive, imported through the custom-houses in the territory of Quintana-Roo for consumption in that district of the Republic, were to be exempted from the payment of import duty and port dues of every description.

NICARAGUA.

MESSAGE OF PRESIDENT J. SANTOS ZELAYA.

On December 1, 1907, the President of Nicaragua addressed an important message to the National Legislative Assembly in which the work of the Executive during the two preceding years was outlined.

Special reference was made to the internecine troubles of the Independent States of Central America culminating in the Washington conference for the maintenance of peace.

In regard to relations with the United States, President ZELAYA states that "His Excellency President THEODORE ROOSEVELT has, in all recent Central American difficulties, graciously offered his friendly offices toward reconciliation. I can assure you that our relations with the United States of America are sincere and cordial, for the small differences that have arisen in regard to some contracts ceded by my Government to the American citizens, HERBERT EMERY and SAMUEL WEIL, will, I am very confident, be satisfactorily adjusted."

He also reports a satisfactory outcome of the mission of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Señor Don J. D. Gamez, who visited the United States and Mexico as a personal and confidential agent for the purpose of discussing matters relating to Central America.

The treaty of friendship, commerce, and navigation, as also the consular convention with the German Empire, have been prorouged for ten years. Treaties have been agreed upon with Great Britain covering the recognition of Nicaraguan sovereignty over the Mosquito Reservation and the annulment of the port privileges of San Juan del Norte.

With Italy and Belgium treaties have been made of friendship, commerce, and navigation, covering also extradition and consular convention.

Important steps are being taken for the collection of statistics and the codification of commercial laws, while legislative reforms are urgently recommended by the Executive.

GOVERNMENT MONOPOLY OF THE MATCH INDUSTRY.

According to a recent Presidential decree, from January 8, 1908, all consumers of matches in Nicaragua must purchase these articles from Government agents only. These officials are empowered to take over such stocks (at cost price) as may be in the hands of merchants, and also from such individuals who, in the estimation of the official, may have a greater quantity than is deemed necessary for immediate use. The fact that these may have been in their possession one month or one year previous to that time, and regularly entered at customs and receipted for by proper officials, will not avail. All persons having such goods in their possession on January 1, 1908, must notify the Government agent, or be liable to indictment as smugglers and punished as such.

At various times the Government has decreed similar monopolies upon certain products, such as tobacco, alcohol, "*aguardiente*" (native rum), explosives, gunpowder, and shot, and the revenues have been collected by the Government for a time, but it has invariably resulted in being leased by individuals upon payment of a specified sum or annuity during the life of the contract, and the prices of the commodities have been excessively increased. Matches are not manufactured in the Republic at the present time, but it is rumored that a factory will soon be erected for the purpose, with an up-to-date equipment. The supply now comes principally from Sweden and Germany, importations from the United States during the past year amounting only to about 20 per cent of the total consumption.

THE EXPLOITATION OF NATIONAL RUBBER FORESTS.

On October 18, 1907, the President of the Republic of Nicaragua approved the charter of incorporation of the Atlantic Industrial Company, formed for the purpose of exploiting the national rubber forests existing in the Department of Zelaya, the Districts of Prinsapolka and Rio Grande, and in the Bocay Mountain, which comprises the forests of Jinotega and Comarca, Cape Gracias a Dios, and a small part of the Department of Segovia. The company will also engage in other business relating to the extraction and exportation of rubber. Its capital is $300,000 and it is the transferee of the concession granted by the Government to Messrs. GUERRERO and MOREIRA for the exploitation of said forests during ten years from September 10, 1905.

TRADE-MARK LAW.

[From the "*Official Gazette*" of November 26, 1907.]

ARTICLE 1. The State protects within its territory the exclusive ownership of such trade-marks as are authorized in conformity with this law.

ART. 2. A trade-mark is a special sign applied to an agricultural or industrial article, or to a commercial article, to warn the public of its origin and to distinguish it from other products of the same kind.

ART. 3. The designation of the sign which shall constitute a trade-mark shall be made by the producer of the article to which said trade-mark is to be applied, but the following shall not be used as trade-marks in the Republic:

I. Generic names, simple geographic names, and the names of individuals or associations, unless the trade-mark contains, in addition, other distinguishing characteristics serving to distinguish the article to which it is to be applied.

II. All signs in conflict with good morals or which may tend to ridicule ideas, persons, objects, or institutions, which, in the opinion of the Department of Fomento, are worthy of consideration by the people in general.

III. The coat of arms, escutcheons, and national emblems.

IV. The coat of arms, escutcheons, or emblems of nations, states, or foreign political corporations, without their respective consent.

V. The names, signatures, and pictures of living persons, without their consent.

VI. Trade-marks, identical or substantially identical to those already registered, whenever it is sought by the former to protect products of the same kind as those protected by the latter.

ART. 4. The Government shall establish a special office for the registration of trade-marks. In the meanwhile the General Office of Public Works shall fulfill these duties and the Chief of said office shall make said registration.

ART. 5. Applications for registration shall be made on stamped paper of the sixth class and filed in the Department of Fomento, signed by the party in interest, or by his attorney, who shall have at least an authentic power of attorney, and said application shall contain the following:

(*a*) The name of the owner of the trade-mark, his domicile and nationality.

(*b*) The name and place of the manufactory or establishment in which the article to which said mark is to be applied is produced.

(*c*) The designation and description of the articles or products sought to be distinguished by means of the trade-mark.

(*d*) The description of the trade-mark, illustrated with a facsimile of the same reproduced in triplicate.

(*e*) In case the trade-mark is indented or in relief, or should it represent any other characteristics that can not be made known in a graphic manner, two identical copies shall be filed setting forth all the particulars and details.

ART. 6. The fee for the registration of trade-marks is $25, renewable every ten years. Delay in the renewal does not forfeit the right to exclusive use of the trade-mark, but until said renewal is made the party in interest is not entitled to prosecute counterfeiters of the trade-mark and of the article protected thereby.

ART. 7. After the application for the registration of a trade-mark has been filed the Department of Fomento shall request information of the chief of the registration office. This officer shall examine the documents filed in order to satisfy himself as to whether the legal requisites have been complied with and shall make the proper report within three days. In case of a favorable report the Minister of Fomento shall give the order for registration after the respective fees have been paid.

ART. 8. The registration of a trade-mark shall always be made without prejudice to third persons and under the exclusive responsibility of the applicant.

ART. 9. After the registration the chief of the office shall issue, in favor of the party in interest, a certified copy of the registration, written on stamped paper of the first class, and said document shall constitute the title to the exclusive use of the trade-mark.

ART. 10. Such questions as might arise concerning the right to the exclusive use of the trade-mark or concerning the priority of the registration thereof and of its identity with others already registered shall be decided by the common courts.

ART. 11. Whenever there has been a controversy before the court the judgment rendered shall be inserted in the certificate of registration.

ART. 12. Whenever the application for the trade-mark referred to in article 5 is filed the Department shall cause the same to be published in the official newspaper three times in succession. At the expiration of ninety days, if no opposition has been made, the Department shall decide to grant to the applicant the title of ownership of the trade-mark, which shall be written on a sheet of stamped paper of the first class.

ART. 13. When there is opposition the Department shall direct the parties in interest to discuss their rights before the proper common court and shall only issue the title to the person whom the court declares to have the best right to it.

ART. 14. Trade-marks shall not be transferred except with the establishment in which the articles to which they apply are produced. Therefore, the transfer of a trade-mark carries with it the right of industrial or commercial exploitation of the products protected thereby. The transfer is not subject to any special formality and shall be made in accordance with the common law, but it must be registered in the trade-mark office, since without this requisite it is not valid as against third parties.

ART. 15. The registration of a trade-mark shall be void whenever made in violation of this law, as well as when the registered trade-mark has been previously registered by some one else, in which case it shall be judicially declared void at the request of the party in interest.

The decision of nullity shall be made known to the Department of Fomento by the judge or court who has taken cognizance of the same in the last hearing.

ART. 16. The action requesting the nullity of the registration of the trade-mark may be tried by any one who considers himself injured thereby, as well as by the Government attorney in case the public interest is involved.

ART. 17. Controversies concerning nullity referred to in the foregoing article shall be decided by the common courts, and the judgments contained in said decision shall be registered in the respective office.

ART. 18. The following shall be considered to have committed the offense referred to in article 319 of the penal code and shall be punished by the penalties established therein:

(*a*) Whoever applies to the articles or objects which he sells or manufactures any trade-mark already legally registered in favor of another person.

(*b*) Whoever applies to the articles or objects which he sells or produces any trade-mark which is an imitation of one legally registered in such a way that it might at first sight be taken for the lawful one.

(*c*) Whoever applies to the aforesaid articles any trade-mark which, though legally registered, is made to appear as another by means of any addition, subtraction, or alteration.

(*d*) Whoever puts on sale or circulates articles bearing the trade-marks referred to in the foregoing sections.

ART. 19. Articles or objects that are the subject-matter of the offenses referred to in the foregoing article are subject to confiscation, but whenever the owner of a legally registered trade-mark is the accuser he shall be entitled to the adjudication in his favor of all the products found bearing the legal trade-mark, whether they are in the possession of the delinquent or in possession of a commission merchant or consignee.

ART. 20. The trade-marks shall be kept permanently in the registration office as well as the books in which the corresponding details of the trade-marks are recorded, and both shall be examined by whoever desires to do so during certain hours set apart to that end, and certified copies of the registration may be had at the expense of the applicant on payment of $1 for each certification issued in addition to the expense of making the copy.

ART. 21. The shape, color, statements, or designations, if they do not constitute by themselves the essential characteristics of the special commercial article of the industrial product, shall not be considered as a trade-mark.

ART. 22. The duration of the ownership of trade-marks is indefinite, but when the establishment, manufactory, or business in which said trade-mark is used has been closed or the production suspended for more than a year the trade-mark shall be considered abandoned.

ART. 23. Drawings and industrial facsimiles are comprised in the provisions of this law.

ART. 24. The provisions of the present law shall be applied whenever they are not in conflict with international pacts on the matter, especially concerning trade-marks entered into during the Second International American Conference of January 27, 1902.

ART. 25. This law shall become effective from the date of its publication in the "*Official Gazette.*"

PANAMA.

THE PORT OF BOCAS DEL TORO, 1907.

United States Consul JAMES C. KELLOGG, of Colon, furnishes the following information concerning the trade of Bocas del Toro, Panama, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1907:

"The value of the imports into the port of Bocas del Toro during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1907, amounted to $968,409, an increase

of $197,535 over the corresponding period of 1906. The imports consisted of 232,269 packages of general merchandise, valued at $841,941, and 411,119 cubic feet of lumber, worth $126,468. The greatest portion of the imports came from the United States, and consisted chiefly of beer, bridge material, vegetables, cotton goods, clothing, coal, canned goods, confectionery, flour, furniture, lumber, machinery, shoes, etc. The imports from Europe were ale, jewelry, laces, matches, perfumery, notions, stationery, etc., and from the West Indies cane sugar, rum, cigars, and cigarettes.

"The exports from the port during the year amounted to $839,037, a decrease of $596,850 as compared with the fiscal year 1906. The articles were: Bananas, valued at $803,126; cocoa, $1,666; sarsaparilla, $11,891; cocoanuts, $846; hides, $270; rubber, $6,908; shells, $13,460, and dried turtle meat, $870. With the exception of bananas, which went to the United States, the entire exports were shipped to Europe. In the coming year it is expected that bananas will be shipped to Europe, and in order to meet the demands of the expected increase of commerce the Hamburg-American Line is building steamers to be equipped with refrigerating apparatus, and these vessels will be put into the trade to carry banana cargoes.

"The United States outranked all other countries in the trade with Bocas del Toro, notwithstanding the large number of Europeans engaged in business there and who, to a certain extent, create a demand for European goods. The population of Bocas del Toro is 4,954, of which 2,272 are Europeans, 50 are Americans, and the remainder natives of Panama and the other Central American States. In the interior, on the banana farms, are thousands of Jamaicans and many Americans and other foreigners."

CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.

["*Gaceta Oficial*" No. 355, of September 21, 1906.]

ARTICLE 1. A tax of 50 centesimos of *balboa* shall be paid on every 1,000 cocoanuts or fraction exported.

ART. 2. This tax shall be paid by the shipper at the pay office of the locality from which the ship proceeded to sea.

ART. 3. The Executive shall lay down regulations for collection of the tax imposed by the present law.

["*Gaceta Oficial*" of July 5, 1907.]

ARTICLE 1. All persons desiring to export merchandise to any port of the Republic shall present to the consular agent or the person acting in his stead, in the place where the shipment is to be made, an invoice in quadruplicate wherein shall be stated:

The name of the exporter, place of origin, the name of the person to whom the merchandise is sent, the name of the port to which it is

sent, and the name of the vessel; the marks on the parcels, their respective numbers, a description of the merchandise, with the original prices, the total weight in kilograms, the number of bottles or half bottles contained in each case or barrel, if the merchandise consist of liquid substances, and the equivalent in liters.

It is hereby prohibited to enter in the same invoice parcels with different destinations, or for different owners or consignees, even though the point of destination were the same.

Consular invoices made out without the requisites herein prescribed shall be subject to a fine equal to 5 per cent of the total value of the invoice.

ART. 2. Import duties shall be collected as heretofore, in accordance with the laws in force: *Provided, however,* That from the publication of the present decree no allowance or reduction shall be made for damages, breakages, leakages, or other injuries, whatever their nature: *And provided further,* That no attention shall be given to claims wherein the refund of duties paid is sought.

ART. 3. Sparkling wines inferior to champagne shall pay a duty at the rate of 50 *centavos* per liter, and cider, kola-champagne, ginger beer, and other similar beverages 20 *centavos* per liter, the same as beer of any kind referred to in the tariff prescribed by law 88 of 1904.

ART. 4. The collection of duties upon tobacco, cigars, and cigarettes shall be put into effect upon the goods as they are sold; that is to say, with the boxes or packages containing them, and excluding from the impost the larger boxes or packings which contain the former smaller ones.

PARAGUAY.

PROJECTED BANK OF THE REPUBLIC.

On December 2, 1907, the Paraguayan Congress met in extraordinary session to receive a project from the Government for the creation of a mixed bank to be called "*Banco de la República*" (Bank of the Republic). The main points in the project are:

Period of continuance, fifty years; the syndicate to subscribe the first series of the capital of $4,000,000 gold; no other bank to be granted the same privileges; capital to be $20,000,000 gold, in series, the first to be of $6,000,000, of which the Government is to take $2,000,000 and the syndicate, $4,000,000; the privileges of the bank to be the issue of notes and bonds, to be intrusted with the Treasury operations, and to be the financial agent of the State; all public funds to be deposited therein; to establish a mortgage section with the right to issue cedulas; freedom from all taxation; the notes issued by the bank to be convertible at par, each dollar paper having a

value of 10 cents gold; these notes to be received by the State and private individuals as gold up to $1,000; the bank to hold a gold reserve equivalent to a third of its note issue; to have the sole right to issue nickel coins and silver coins of $1 and $2; the Government to name three directors, and the shareholders six; 10 per cent of the profits to go to the reserve fund until this reaches 20 per cent of the capital; a conversion fund to be opened, to which 10 per cent of the profits are to go, as well as the product of the export tax on hides, and which is to be used solely for conversion of the actual paper currency; all old paper currency paid in for account of the conversion at the rate of 10 cents gold per dollar to be destroyed; the State to gradually increase the conversion fund in the proportion necessary to cancel the present issue within eight years.

PERU.

TREATY WITH BOLIVIA.

The following treaty of commerce and customs was concluded between Peru and Bolivia on November 27, 1905; ratifications exchanged in Lima on January 30, 1906; and publication made in "*El Peruano*" of February 14, 1906.

ARTICLE I. Peru and Bolivia hereby establish their commercial relations on the basis of perfect reciprocity.

ART. II. Both countries grant free commercial transit of all natural or manufactured products of either of them as well as those of foreign countries imported through the routes of Mollendo and Puno to La Paz and Mollendo to Pelechuco, via Cojate, and vice versa.

* * * * * * *

ART. V. Cattle of every description intended for consumption in Peru or Bolivia, crossing the territory of the other country in transit, shall not be liable to any charges, except the local rates which are or may hereafter be established on the transit of cattle originating from the country collecting the tax.

ART. VI. For the mutual convenience of the inhabitants of the contiguous zones of the Republics, the importation of the following articles, if proceeding from either of the two countries, shall be free from all fiscal or municipal tax, whether in Peru or in Bolivia, and also exempted from the production of all consular or customs documents. Fresh fruits, fresh fish, fresh shrimps, fresh meat, cheese, milk, eggs, potatoes, *chuño*, *quinua*, *cañaguä*, maize, barley in the grain. Nor shall any fiscal or municipal tax be levied in either country on the specified quantities of the following products: Mutton up to 10 kilograms; dried meat and greaves (*chicharrones*) up to 23 kilograms;

butter up to 6 kilograms; wool of sheep, alpacas, or lamas up to 12 kilograms; ox hides or sheep skins up to 23 kilograms; coca up to 12 kilograms; cocoa up to 6 kilograms; coffee up to 12 kilograms; and chocolate up to 5 kilograms.

* * * * * * *

ART. VIII. The treaty dated June 7, 1881, is hereby wholly abolished, as well as the additional protocols thereto.

ART. IX. After the approval hereof and the exchange of ratifications, the present treaty shall take effect from July 1 next, the commercial treaty of 1881 being, therefore, maintained until that date.

ART. X. The present treaty shall be binding for five years and shall be deemed to continue indefinitely unless either of the two contracting parties shall have given a year's notice in advance to terminate the same.

STEAMSHIP SERVICE BETWEEN NEW YORK AND CALLAO.

With the inauguration of the new steamship service between New York and Callao by the National Steamship and Floating Dock Company of Callao (*Compañía Nacional de Vapores y Dique del Callao*) via Panama, a great economic advance in the commercial intercourse of the two sections will be brought about. This enterprise, which will, it is anticipated, be in full operation early in 1908, is capitalized for $15,000,000 and is to receive a subsidy from the Peruvian Government of $1,500,000. Fast steamers are now under construction for the line in England and the purpose is to make the run from Panama to Callao in five instead of eleven or twelve days, as at present.

Callao is the largest port on the Pacific between San Francisco and Valparaiso and a great impetus will be afforded to its development through the greater expedition in the dispatch of its business relations with the ports of Europe and the United States afforded by this new steamship route.

CUSTOMS REVENUES OF IQUITOS, FIRST TEN MONTHS OF 1907.

The revenues collected at the fluvial custom-house of Iquitos, Peru, during the first ten months of 1907, amounted to £217,363.3.33, as compared with £139,754.8.32, sum collected in the same period of 1906.

RAILROAD FROM CUZCO TO LA CONVENCION.

On September 12, 1907, the Chamber of Deputies of the Peruvian Congress approved a bill providing for the construction of a railroad line which, starting from the city of Cuzco and passing through the Provinces of Calca and Urubamba, or Anta and Urubamba, shall terminate at the city of Santa Ana, capital of the Province of La Convencion.

TARIFF MODIFICATIONS.

["*El Peruano*" No. 6, of February 24, 1906.]

ARTICLE 1. In the custom-houses of the Department of Loreto the articles comprised in section 7 of the customs tariff are to pay an import duty of 15 per cent on the valuations stated therein.

ART. 2. The following are to be admitted free of duty: Live cattle; vessels, steam or other, put together or not, and naval stores; coal; tools and machinery of all kinds for agriculture and industry; rails and accessories, and all rolling stock for railways; coined gold; books and school requisites; furnaces for industrial use; copper stills for rectifying; pans of iron or copper weighing more than 46 kilograms; cups and other appliances used exclusively for the collection of rubber.

ART. 3. All other merchandise imported shall pay 30 per cent on the valuation stated in the tariff, except gold and silver jewelry set with precious stones, and unset precious stones, which shall pay 3 per cent; gold and silver manufactures, which shall pay 10 per cent, and wooden matches, which shall pay the specific import and consumption duties fixed by the tariff.

ART. 4. All rubber exported through the same custom-houses, whatever its class or quality, shall pay a duty of 20 *centavos* per kilogram (gross weight), or 24 *centavos* (net weight) when not packed in cases. * * *

["*El Peruano*" No. 7, of March 10, 1906.]

SOLE ARTICLE. The importation of live cattle for consumption shall be exempt from duty during a period of four years.

["*El Peruano*" No. 2, of July 14, 1906.]

From and after June 1, 1906, the sea custom-houses of the Republic shall, in accordance with article 4 of the law of January 27 last, levy on exportation of India rubber 20 *centavos* per kilogram (gross weight), or 24 *centavos* per kilogram (net weight) when not packed in cases.

["*El Peruano*" No. 9, of January 19, 1907.]

ARTICLE 1. A tax of 2 per cent shall be levied on the net amount of import duites payable on merchandise entering the Department of Piura, with the exception of "Toquilla" straw.

* * * * * * *

ART. 5. The tax established by the present law shall be collected by the customs at Paita during ten years from the date of promulgation hereof.

["*El Peruano*" No. 15, of February 16, 1907.]

SOLE ARTICLE. Machines called "*contómetros*," registering but not stamping tickets for amount of their receipts, shall pay an import duty of 10 per cent on such value as the Executive, in exercise of his powers, shall assess thereon.

["*El Peruano*" No. 16, of February 23, 1907.]

From and after March 1, 1907, there shall be levied at the Salaverry custom-house an additional tax of 2 per cent, established for providing the city of Trujillo with a water supply.

["*El Peruano*" No. 16, of February 23, 1907.]

From and after March 1, 1907, there shall be levied at the Paita custom-house an additional tax of 2 per cent, established for carrying out public works in the Department of Piura.

["*El Peruano*" No. 21, of April 11, 1907.]

In virtue of the present resolution, the customs shall appraise machines called "*contómetros*" (cash registers) at £10 each.

SALVADOR.

CUSTOMS REVENUES, FIRST QUARTER OF 1907.

According to official figures recently received from Salvador, the custom-houses of the Republic collected during the first quarter of 1907 a total revenue of 1,087,249.45 *pesos* ($543,624.72), which, compared with the revenues of the same months of 1906, shows a decrease of 291,808.85 *pesos* ($145,904.42).

UNITED STATES.

TRADE WITH LATIN AMERICA.

STATEMENT OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

Following is the latest statement, from figures compiled by the Bureau of Statistics, United States Department of Commerce and Labor, showing the value of the trade between the United States and Latin-American countries. The report is for the month of November, 1907, with a comparative statement for the corresponding month of the previous year; also for the eleven months ending November, 1907, as compared with the same period of the preceding year. It should be explained that the figures from the various custom-houses, showing imports and exports for any one month, are not received at the Treasury Department until about the 20th of the following month, and some time is necessarily consumed in compilation and printing, so that the returns for November, for example, are not published until some time in January.

Countries.	November.			
	Imports.		Exports.	
	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.
Central American States:				
Costa Rica	$224,761	$209,276	$204,536	$272,162
Guatemala	29,583	45,012	194,601	136,998
Honduras	263,949	245,451	140,910	182,152
Nicaragua	53,971	124,732	176,952	167,600
Panama	175,653	134,198	1,273,507	1,518,114
Salvador	5,918	13,705	160,648	105,711
Total Central American States	753,835	772,374	2,151,154	2,382,737
Mexico	3,918,125	3,488,992	5,338,561	5,092,169
West Indian States:				
Cuba	3,125,692	2,838,430	4,338,872	3,928,650
Haiti	108,004	89,760	301,917	466,544
Santo Domingo	77,070	35,700	219,924	236,931
South American States:				
Argentina	899,866	873,391	2,622,489	2,190,616
Bolivia			22,731	129,331
Brazil	12,242,547	7,884,241	1,717,157	1,436,773
Chile	2,025,219	1,476,105	772,999	1,156,967
Colombia	468,997	684,995	232,677	285,759
Ecuador	332,269	320,163	144,594	176,874
Paraguay		1,834	6,581	18,531
Peru	538,371	563,251	506,176	875,876
Uruguay	289,968	67,498	261,564	350,469
Venezuela	425,156	664,850	295,009	303,037

Countries.	Eleven months ending November.			
	Imports.		Exports.	
	1906.	1907	1906.	1907.
Central American States:				
Costa Rica	$4,500,515	$5,075,582	$2,265,420	$2,513,886
Guatemala	2,659,548	4,149,368	2,795,628	2,131,049
Honduras	2,040,458	2,250,880	1,698,818	1,683,028
Nicaragua	1,270,176	1,145,901	1,837,063	1,611,419
Panama	1,343,259	1,565,150	12,956,871	17,000,221
Salvador	1,193,113	1,185,262	1,217,925	1,469,722
Total Central American States	13,007,069	15,372,143	22,771,725	26,409,325
Mexico	46,888,005	54,271,926	56,736,960	62,795,734
West Indian States:				
Cuba	82,564,989	90,012,232	42,420,197	48,340,460
Haiti	916,452	1,150,982	3,005,139	2,849,414
Santo Domingo	3,373,748	3,146,817	2,065,933	2,428,980
South American States:				
Argentina	17,445,763	15,399,489	29,688,641	26,986,423
Bolivia			151,257	1,470,586
Brazil	72,587,875	79,957,105	14,895,463	19,225,415
Chile	15,889,170	16,949,978	8,257,860	10,755,044
Colombia	6,144,682	5,957,725	2,720,895	2,855,564
Ecuador	2,871,309	2,691,521	1,682,910	1,680,320
Paraguay	1,200	7,261	94,819	159,290
Peru	2,604,937	6,569,443	4,738,723	6,507,133
Uruguay	2,363,951	2,858,772	2,833,797	3,565,094
Venezuela	7,200,629	7,122,422	3,045,451	2,522,012

The various items of import and export, with the countries of origin and destination, were as follows:

IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE.

Articles and countries.	November—		Eleven months ending November—	
	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.
Cocoa (*Cacao; coco ou cacao; cacao*):				
Central America	$2,353	$1,951	$22,226	$43,948
Brazil	380,178	361,976	1,917,991	2,615,349
Other South America	189,082	303,482	1,974,056	2,472,679
Coffee (*Café; café; café*):				
Central America	43,091	36,461	5,888,987	7,573,151
Mexico	14,707	42,765	2,064,390	1,666,461
Brazil	8,720,654	5,224,397	42,527,697	46,541,702
Other South America	504,004	955,891	8,831,394	8,540,152
Copper (*Cobre; cobre; cobre*):				
Mexico	1,153,095	802,121	16,685,767	17,536,379
Cuba	22,149	678	68,383	120,126
South America	25	127,280	694,517	1,248,251
Fibers:				
Cotton, unmanufactured (*Algodón en rama; algodão em rama; coton non manufacturé*):				
South America	81,816	93,943	501,472	537,876
Ixtle or Tampico fiber (*Ixtle; ixtle; ixtle*):				
Mexico	170,714	61,458	1,199,186	1,088,521
Sisal grass (*Henequen; henequen; henequen*):				
Mexico	1,435,725	1,082,682	12,683,182	13,551,202
Fruits:				
Bananas (*Plátanos; bananas; bananes*):				
Central America	417,906	427,324	5,143,576	5,236,415
Cuba	1,682	3,761	1,202,979	1,097,815
South America		38,288	309,429	328,312
Oranges (*Naranjas; naranjas; oranges*):				
Mexico	13,650	23,009	31,436	60,998
Cuba	1,431	214	8,749	4,277
Furs and fur skins (*Pieles finas; peles finas; peaux*):				
South America	15,423	22,700	290,380	175,533
Goat skins (*Pieles de cabra; peles; peaux de chèvres*):				
Mexico	139,120	140,220	2,437,185	2,280,903
Brazil	112,113	127,640	1,576,406	1,467,210
Other South America	171,531	87,147	2,236,079	1,458,513
Hides of cattle (*Cueros vacunos; couros de gado; cuirs de bétail*):				
Mexico	110,068	36,355	1,363,604	1,312,237
Cuba	20,437	3,767	132,689	229,347
Brazil	16,042		193,726	237,153
Other South America	787,652	400,817	7,988,555	8,172,392
India rubber, crude (*Goma elástica; borracha crua; caoutchouc*):				
Central America	52,837	53,282	712,152	731,367
Mexico	154,175	197,966	1,373,520	3,584,799
Brazil	2,711,451	2,090,669	24,447,264	26,483,385
Other South America	129,172	179,831	1,168,079	1,169,413
Iron ore (*Mineral de hierro; mineral de ferro; minerai de fer*):				
Cuba	227,101	238,428	2,045,284	2,324,196
Lead ore (*Plomo; chumbo; plomb*):				
Mexico	108,612	424,354	2,532,077	2,805,261
Sugar, not above No. 16 Dutch standard (*Azúcar, inferior al No. 16 del modelo holandes; assucar não superior ao No. 16 de padrão hollandez; sucre, pas audessus du type hollandais No. 16*):				
Mexico	316	144	78,582	1,022,738
Cuba	668,289	565,297	56,344,473	66,538,615
Brazil	178,956		507,602	278,491
Other South America	746,928	32,890	1,737,019	713,272
Tobacco and manufactures (*Tabaco y sus manufacturas; tabaco e sus manufacturas; tabac et ses manufactures*):				
Cuba	1,837,187	1,769,760	17,951,951	14,838,736
Wood, mahogany (*Caoba; mogno; acajou*):				
Central America	77,291	124,129	448,520	630,066
Mexico	38,234	98,542	454,866	671,559
Cuba	23,649	29,087	167,475	179,746

IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	November—		Eleven months ending November—	
	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.
Wool (*Lana; lã, laine*):				
South America—				
Class 1 (clothing)	$1,429	$17,427	$6,529,807	$5,016,012
Class 2 (combing)	31,837	82,646	295,838	614,974
Class 3 (carpet)	277	1,932	759,188	410,018

EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE.

Agricultural implements (*Instrumentos agrícolas; instrumentos de agricultura; machines agricoles*):				
Mexico	41,201	67,111	499,970	480,964
Cuba	3,570	4,890	110,363	129,124
Argentine Republic	268,385	160,838	4,201,637	3,181,598
Brazil	9,159	25,157	93,607	173,484
Chile	25,064	26,583	404,844	431,418
Other South America	13,149	11,758	268,683	188,295
Animals:				
Cattle (*Ganado vacuno; gado; bétail*):				
Mexico	84,630	101,623	755,219	725,547
Cuba	19,825	13,867	991,032	233,393
South America	6,440	13,000	69,984	52,104
Hogs (*Cerdos; porcos; porcs*):				
Mexico	35,735	15,154	204,219	166,212
South America	16	105	2,683	8,524
Horses (*Caballos; cavallos; chevaux*):				
Mexico	59,375	16,805	321,361	279,717
Sheep (*Ovejas; ovelhas; brebis*):				
Mexico	1,630	10,048	100,845	78,519
Books, maps, etc. (*Libros, mapas, etc.; livros, mappas, etc.; livres, mappes, etc.*):				
Central America	6,789	4,742	57,145	62,714
Mexico	34,314	29,324	240,107	315,688
Cuba	22,533	11,781	263,129	290,565
Argentine Republic	11,274	9,247	100,917	75,363
Brazil	10,304	8,122	102,939	77,191
Chile	12,815	33,182	173,448	134,829
Other South America	6,999	8,024	70,710	125,661
Breadstuffs:				
Corn (*Maiz; milho; mais*):				
Central America	1,073	4,587	52,418	76,632
Mexico	89,889	14,177	1,107,326	953,863
Cuba	153,941	114,376	1,190,820	1,481,656
South America	499	1,824	11,897	17,532
Oats (*Avena; aveia; avoine*):				
Central America	1,381	5,564	24,215	44,369
Mexico	4,396	1,795	50,737	50,395
Cuba	26,765	32,949	267,722	281,331
South America	234	795	19,138	9,746
Wheat (*Trigo; trigo; blé*):				
Central America		190	25,525	26,563
Mexico	60,178	1,292	1,473,714	1,441,358
South America	10,507	170,176	324,573	335,959
Wheat flour (*Harina de trigo; farinha de trigo; farine de blé*):				
Central America	93,177	159,226	1,464,286	1,737,471
Mexico	9,187	11,378	111,717	136,779
Cuba	272,952	298,366	2,613,034	3,218,328
Brazil	164,847	154,304	1,164,714	1,492,131
Colombia	12,997	16,144	118,694	172,684
Other South America	165,550	183,587	2,299,449	1,544,373
Carriages, etc. (*Carruajes; carruagens; voitures*):				
Mexico	64,827	15,662	678,280	573,116
South America	19,929	12,014	142,311	220,933
Cars, passenger and freight (*Trenes para pasage y carga; carros de passageiros e carga; wagons de voyageurs et de marchandises*):				
Central America	170,967	54,416	2,003,210	1,522,015
Mexico	292,419	106,069	1,588,057	1,613,449
Cuba	53,866	137,692	968,809	673,064
Argentine Republic	204,980	16,902	1,064,939	1,121,978
Chile	31,410	22,480	142,187	138,862
Other South America	11,953	173,014	411,229	1,036,239

EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	November—		Eleven months ending November—	
	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.
Cycles and parts of (*Bicicletas y sus accesorios; bicyclos e partes; bicyclettes et leurs parties*):				
Mexico	$6,596	$9,708	$64,986	$61,013
Cuba	2,885	3,412	28,912	45,684
Argentine Republic	579	1,220	17,402	15,346
Brazil	1,583	1,578	9,760	12,523
Other South America	1,846	1,209	19,391	13,142
Clocks and watches (*Relojes de pared y bolsillo; relogios de bolso y parede; horloges et montres*):				
Central America	1,856	2,473	15,999	19,392
Mexico	2,003	3,290	66,982	58,902
Argentine Republic	4,976	3,414	71,224	64,524
Brazil	9,826	11,458	73,031	99,152
Chile	6,149	6,240	43,147	55,102
Other South America	2,777	2,543	38,220	38,892
Coal (*Carbón; carvão; charbon*):				
Mexico	209,675	188,353	2,928,296	3,037,421
Cuba	137,439	238,385	1,758,657	2,071,267
Copper (*Cobre; cobre; cuivre*):				
Mexico	53,319	76,164	960,041	1,430,614
Fibers:				
Cotton, unmanufactured (*Algodón en rama; algodão em rama; coton non manufacturé*):				
Mexico	344	17,156	522,372	55,615
Cotton cloths (*Tejidos de algodón; fazendas de algodão; coton manufacturé*):				
Central America	165,902	125,166	1,533,724	1,580,762
Mexico	22,241	14,658	218,731	228,209
Cuba	82,224	120,150	892,560	998,902
Argentine Republic	34,544	8,528	238,841	102,476
Brazil	48,406	20,849	422,708	425,896
Chile	92,209	80,526	779,924	648,008
Colombia	75,305	47,138	756,100	633,828
Venezuela	41,887	23,842	435,481	262,069
Other South America	58,380	49,036	403,137	470,501
Wearing apparel (*Ropa de algodón; roupa de algodão; vetemênts de coton*):				
Central America	27,025	55,228	273,076	544,834
Mexico	17,450	38,411	222,758	426,203
Cuba	30,834	28,928	287,186	375,575
Other South America	13,510	10,271	101,389	111,003
Twine (*Bramante; barbante; ficelle*):				
Argentine Republic	39,012	169,762	1,157,210	1,654,985
Other South America	13,051	15,732	223,867	262,320
Fish:				
Salmon (*Salmón; salmão; saumon*):				
Colombia	305	374	3,320	4,288
Other South America	21,437	167,622	163,541	501,730
Fruits and nuts (*Frutas y nueces; fruitas e nozes; fruites et noix*):				
Central America	15,202	21,253	94,284	147,322
Mexico	31,924	32,403	207,874	215,382
Cuba	39,662	33,221	158,758	208,257
South America	19,130	25,562	124,077	158,991
Glucose and grape sugar (*Glucosas; glucoses; glucoses*):				
Argentine Republic	3,312	1,697	88,971	49,501
Other South America	508	21	5,483	9,113
Instruments:				
Electric and scientific apparatus (*Aparatos eléctricos y científicos; apparatos electricos e scientificos; appareils électriques et scientifiques*):				
Central America	4,181	6,787	66,102	74,783
Mexico	47,381	21,944	357,566	361,471
Cuba	9,357	7,234	137,438	155,056
Argentine Republic	8,010	10,098	118,134	156,028
Brazil	2,943	13,541	58,553	109,937
Other South America	12,434	16,020	142,852	184,798

EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	November—		Eleven months ending November—	
	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.
Instruments—Continued.				
Telegraph and telephone instruments (*Instrumentos telegráficos y telefónicos; instrumentos telegraphicos e telephonicos; instruments télégraphiques et téléphoniques*):				
Central America	$16,271	$18,448	$156,381	$227,364
Mexico	70,687	68,161	911,502	707,106
Cuba	83,110	42,879	533,665	358,227
Argentine Rebublic	31,264	12,265	326,872	179,207
Brazil	83,165	36,013	709,982	1,163,206
Other South America	54,380	77,617	418,878	703,901
Electrical machinery (*Maquinaria eléctrica; machinas electricas; machines électriques*):				
Central America	4,909	3,787	36,754	89,452
Mexico	60,371	134,567	953,241	1,472,671
Cuba	6,238	2,648	436,681	63,991
Argentine Republic	12,106	30,430	162,402	164,616
Brazil	44,175	49,486	497,212	950,808
Other South America	14,169	27,210	134,823	181,206
Iron and steel, manufacturers of:				
Steel rails (*Carriles de acero; trilhos de aço; rails d'acier*):				
Central America	2,000	101,023	493,938	686,189
Mexico	114,689	67,910	721,825	987,281
South America	130,903	107,438	2,572,779	2,255,641
Structural iron and steel (*Hierro y acero para construcción; ferro e aço para construcção; fer et acier pour la construction*):				
Mexico	26,395	75,872	489,112	890,757
Cuba	33,766	28,283	346,682	360,771
South America	46,643	70,270	334,524	720,270
Wire (*Alambre; arame; fil de fer*):				
Central America	18,089	27,066	210,538	211,085
Mexico	34,589	98,349	530,574	1,027,021
Cuba	20,814	19,623	420,762	582,922
Argentine Republic	75,138	127,886	1,410,159	1,308,990
Brazil	22,371	34,748	195,938	335,240
Other South America	78,084	92,332	435,460	590,844
Builders' hardware, etc. (*Materiales de metal para construcción; ferragens; matériaux de construction en fer et acier*):				
Central America	34,966	30,374	314,701	343,282
Mexico	87,060	91,539	997,179	1,099,905
Cuba	46,389	31,087	530,988	580,456
Argentine Republic	68,713	63,411	762,613	620,981
Brazil	57,631	57,274	431,314	547,512
Chile	32,634	41,135	261,301	374,454
Colombia	5,733	4,630	68,959	87,130
Venuzuela	3,451	3,446	54,464	40,130
Other South America	28,279	37,530	275,750	356,405
Metal working machinery (*Maquinaria para trabajar metales; machinismos para trabalhar em metal; machines pour travailler les métaux*):				
Mexico	13,100	7,026	58,871	89,885
South America	9,753	16,217	72,868	166,111
Pipes and fittings (*Cañería; tubos; tuyaux*):				
Central America	27,445	35,243	668,803	543,807
Mexico	76,778	172,693	1,443,706	1,470,818
Cuba	37,068	155,837	398,529	996,141
Argentine Republic	12,592	29,261	129,794	118,040
Other South America	14,646	38,691	219,812	281,114
Sewing machines and parts of (*Máquinas de coser y sus accesorios; machinas de coser e accesorios; machines à coudre et leurs parties*):				
Central America	11,498	12,529	128,890	132,132
Mexico	77,455	67,451	756,197	674,085
Cuba	26,479	2,259	310,187	274,305
Argentine Republic	59,572	21,215	535,308	331,583
Brazil	70,849	37,158	283,465	487,527
Colombia	5,470	8,437	69,964	75,133
Other South America	30,590	61,837	386,955	465,459
Steam engines and parts of (*Locomotoras y accesorios locomotivas e accesorios; locomotifs et leurs parties*):				
Central America	101,763	19,020	1,197,209	843,562
Mexico	321,839	62,897	963,174	421,705
Cuba	143,498	33,098	468,508	632,230
Argentine Republic	8,126	.....	216,481	206,491
Brazil	36,517	59,250	596,046	675,306
Other South America	15,285	64,118	512,375	1,087,021

EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	November—		Eleven months ending November—	
	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.
Typewriting machines and parts of (*Mecanógrafos y accesorios; machines de escribir e accesorios; machines à écrire et leurs parties*):				
Central America	$3,453	$4,213	$43,672	$51,216
Mexico	24,073	27,003	339,445	340,427
Cuba	2,344	8,746	67,572	82,532
Argentine Republic	12,245	8,519	102,644	91,297
Brazil	7,458	8,932	57,533	92,225
Colombia	2,857	399	10,850	21,085
Other South America	17,916	19,316	153,419	216,019
Leather, other than sole (*Cuero, distinto del de suelas; couro, não para solas; cuirs, autres que pour semelles*):				
Central America	16,698	16,694	182,994	235,864
Cuba	10,241	8,875	141,169	120,655
Argentine Republic	15,421	23,311	257,250	187,205
Brazil	17,356	12,623	142,586	137,256
Other South America	16,703	30,668	279,872	196,492
Boots and shoes (*Calzados; calçados; chaussures*):				
Central America	48,809	70,775	447,223	653,456
Mexico	132,658	126,856	1,358,907	1,551,234
Colombia	4,379	11,594	54,345	44,591
Other South America	41,999	72,529	317,160	423,455
Meat and dairy products:				
Beef, canned (*Carne de vaca en latas; carne de vacca en latas; bœuf conservé*):				
Central America	5,502	6,635	62,558	73,052
Mexico	6,414	1,261	26,498	18,727
Cuba	751	4,347	19,751	20,150
Other South America	4,478	3,600	42,640	49,131
Beef, salted or pickled (*Carne de vaca salada ó adobada; carne de vacca, salgada; bœuf salé*):				
Central America	10,255	15,799	107,555	180,521
South America	26,317	30,770	237,871	188,893
Tallow (*Sebo; sebo; suif*):				
Central America	4,235	7,938	123,426	114,120
Mexico	497	1,646	20,567	36,209
Cuba	978	1,318	10,780	71,278
Chile	3,653	5,547	92,190	65,698
Other South America	7,155	6,041	49,381	51,129
Bacon (*Tocino; toucinho; lard fumé*):				
Central America	5,526	3,055	29,585	43,294
Mexico	3,969	6,250	43,545	62,092
Cuba	63,624	24,315	478,937	528,985
Brazil	14,673	15,617	162,264	189,467
Other South America	480	1,852	10,128	22,999
Hams (*Jamones; presuntos; jambons*):				
Central America	14,468	10,148	103,956	159,566
Mexico	7,336	15,884	90,229	128,209
Cuba	58,389	52,190	503,315	587,681
Venezuela	7,216	7,323	41,526	40,708
Other South America	7,073	13,729	64,064	67,019
Pork (*Carne de puerco; carne de porco; porc*):				
Cuba	69,294	76,684	613,784	756,713
South America	21,752	23,720	230,870	252,984
Lard (*Manteca; banha; saindoux*):				
Central America	58,763	45,523	461,976	578,574
Mexico	44,503	129,773	479,336	714,666
Cuba	293,304	174,409	2,582,454	2,829,441
Brazil	99,478	61,836	602,481	1,133,828
Chile	11,304	9,301	157,713	145,913
Colombia	2,653	16,525	65,653	80,578
Venezuela	26,529	6,269	282,625	113,952
Other South America	38,641	53,760	557,535	578,361
Butter (*Mantequilla; manteiga; beurre*):				
Central America	12,768	16,934	137,439	171,255
Mexico	11,240	10,075	124,817	143,712
Cuba	6,232	1,006	54,623	60,857
Brazil	7,096	1,973	109,164	42,520
Venezuela	2,968	8,396	90,136	47,135
Other South America	5,131	8,998	42,068	40,641
Cheese (*Queso; queijo; fromage*):				
Central America	6,488	6,705	69,293	86,731
Mexico	2,207	4,529	38,602	45,373
Cuba	2,202	1,452	14,205	26,208

EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	November—		Eleven months ending November—	
	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.
Naval stores:				
Rosin, tar, etc. (*Resina, alquitran, etc.; resina e alcatrao; resine et goudron*):				
Cuba	$9,527	$4,995	$65,688	$85,099
Argentine Republic	88,233	26,589	443,293	209,199
Brazil	57,043	28,279	600,787	642,331
Other South America	43,594	19,506	247,352	214,563
Turpentine (*Aguarras; aguaraz; térébenthine*):				
Central America	1,880	1,488	43,854	40,390
Cuba	11,896	8,510	75,791	76,294
Argentine Republic	1,358	27,211	270,551	343,128
Brazil	13,920	11,817	143,150	151,639
Chile	8,510	13,955	84,188	139,330
Other South America	7,984	7,595	74,934	87,496
Oils:				
Mineral, crude (*Aceites minerales, crudos; oleos mineraes, crus; huiles, minerales, brutes*):				
Mexico	847	67,004	933,642	1,016,453
Cuba	60,453	.....	545,518	371,669
Illuminating (*Aceitespara alumbrado; oleos para illuminacao; huiles d'éclairage*):				
Central America	24,134	36,692	243,442	292,759
Cuba	5,247	1,330	63,639	174,067
Argentine Republic	124,134	116,411	1,892,772	1,694,782
Brazil	246,986	172,689	2,340,601	2,405,956
Chile	40,454	44,380	646,366	737,988
Other South America	122,334	134,818	988,951	1,150,787
Lubricating (*Aceites para la lubricación; oleos para lubrificação; huiles à graisser*):				
Mexico	41,435	18,494	250,249	161,164
Cuba	36,531	17,075	202,200	305,553
Argentine Republic	16,574	36,034	350,362	419,435
Brazil	37,009	11,515	278,135	308,791
Chile	20,257	29,584	196,944	209,337
Paraffin (*Parafina; paraffina; paraffine*):				
Central America	11,450	6,836	60,879	73,545
Mexico	11,293	30,161	477,865	605,882
South America	3,396	3,350	36,434	49,932
Vegetable (*Aceites vegetales; oleos vegetales; huiles végétales*):				
Central America	4,450	3,420	35,535	58,439
Mexico	131,729	185,053	720,511	952,217
Cuba	6,903	1,991	202,529	227,294
Argentine Republic	3,636	4,445	78,575	97,960
Brazil	2,907	8,163	221,671	573,002
Chile	3,113	3,215	48,402	160,314
Other South America	3,363	19,432	153,276	253,521
Paper (*Papel; papel; papier*):				
Mexico	8,391	9,982	36,426	77,092
Cuba	18,746	29,562	148,925	229,161
Argentine Republic	1,384	3,175	259,329	144,623
Brazil	993	410	32,111	8,210
Chile	26,320	39,664	152,692	180,797
Other South America	3,993	4,404	74,656	90,000
Tobacco, unmanufactured (*Tabaco em rama; tabacco não manufacturado; tabac non manufacturé*):				
Central America	3,952	5,815	64,353	52,287
Mexico	7,729	13,321	92,147	130,652
Argentine Republic	1,288	35,130	30,804	193,877
Colombia	.....	799	15,128	11,464
Other South America	9,216	8,982	77,717	82,300
Manufactured (*Tabaco elaborado; tabacco manufacturado; tabac manufacturé*):				
Central America	6,289	8,076	61,499	94,057
Wood, unmanufactured (*Madera sin labrada; madeira não manufacturada; bois brut*):				
Central America	106,780	56,904	618,590	524,787
Mexico	72,341	130,176	1,187,089	1,596,829
Cuba	836	301	165,190	60,765
Argentine Republic	15,200	.....	163,927	49,873
Other South America	88,662	3,136	195,363	124,072
Lumber (*Maderas; madeiras; bois de construction*):				
Central America	139,148	83,917	1,039,398	1,132,207
Mexico	106,263	192,672	1,984,937	2,474,083
Cuba	132,957	155,869	2,153,783	2,240,377
Argentine Republic	641,482	298,017	4,614,986	3,790,111
Brazil	84,830	17,015	772,345	804,003
Chile	10,545	49,821	649,255	1,447,862
Other South America	103,431	189,827	1,073,936	1,504,539

EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	November—		Eleven months ending November—	
	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.
Furniture (*Muebles; mobilia; meubles*):				
Central America	$23,080	$42,682	$271,978	$337,680
Mexico	99,004	89,598	828,180	958,102
Cuba	45,070	53,782	530,632	666,198
Argentine Republic	30,968	40,202	316,018	466,641
Brazil	7,180	6,469	59,270	86,751
Chile	3,488	7,504	69,245	103,089
Colombia	1,913	1,533	17,176	15,975
Venezuela	2,626	2,737	18,292	18,524
Other South America	14,378	23,641	97,264	134,847

EXPORTS OF RUBBER GOODS.

Figures showing the values of exports of rubber goods from the United States give a grand total of $6,214,910 in the fiscal year ended June 30, 1907, as compared with $5,692,385 in the preceding twelve months.

The distribution was as follows: To Europe, $2,956,184; North America, $2,070,255; South America, $251,832; Asia, $359,418; Oceania, $435,478; Africa, $141,743.

With the exception of Canada, which received United States rubber manufactures to the value of $1,046,659, Mexico was the leading importer of this class of mechandise in America, the total purchases representing $556,801. The figures reported for the United Kingdom are alone in excess of the two noted, being $1,644,516.

URUGUAY.

CUSTOMS RECEIPTS, TEN MONTHS OF 1907.

Uruguayan customs receipts for October, 1907, aggregated $1,014,719.84, as compared with $1,127,889 in the same month of 1906, a decrease of $113,169 being thus indicated.

For the ten months ending October, 1907, the receipts show a gain of $265,232 as compared with the corresponding period of the preceding year, the totals for the two years being $11,271,871 and $11,006,639, respectively, from January to October, inclusive.

TAX ON FOREIGN INSURANCE COMPANIES.

Among the provisions of the Uruguayan tax law for 1908, as submitted by the legislature to the Government and practically sanctioned, is a clause whereby the tax on the premiums of foreign insurance companies in the Republic is raised from 3 to 7 per cent. Both domestic and foreign companies are required to deposit guarantees for considerable amounts.

MUNICIPAL REVENUES OF MONTEVIDEO.

The revenue of the municipality of Montevideo during 1905–6 amounted to $1,446,168.74, as compared with $1,265,250.69 in the preceding fiscal year. It was the largest recorded revenue in seven years.

VENEZUELA.

SURTAX ON IMPORT DUTIES.

A governmental decree dated November 14, 1907, imposes the following surtaxes on various articles imported into Venezuela:

Surtax of 10 per cent of the customs duty: Maize, rice, and wheat in the grain; beans (haricot and Lima); black-eye pease; lentils; hogs' lard; butter; beer.

Surtax of 25 per cent of the customs duty: Common bottles of ordinary black or transparent glass suitable for bottling liquors; sterilized milk and aerated waters; sheet glass or crystal not silvered, white or colored; potatoes; saddletrees or frames; raw cotton; straw hats, untrimmed; brown and wood-pulp paper.

TARIFF MODIFICATIONS.

("*Gaceta Oficial*" No. 10125, of July 12, 1907.)

This resolution provides that used empty bags introduced from abroad for exporting therein cotton seed produced in the country are to be cleared through the customs of the Republic, free from payment of import duties, after due examination, and subject to importers furnishing proof that the bags are intended for said purpose.

("*Gaceta Oficial*" No. 10150, of August 10, 1907.)

Inasmuch as the present customs import tariff law contains no reference to the substance known as "white Roman cement," generally intended to be used in manufacturing moldings, etc., for buildings, the present resolution provides that white cement, or "*estucatina,*" imported through the custom-houses of the Republic, shall be assessed under Class II of the tariff.

(*Gaceta Oficial*" No. 10181, of September 16, 1907.)

The undermentioned articles, not being specially provided for in the existing customs law, intended for use in breweries of the country shall, on importation, be included in the following classes of the tariff: Anhydrous ammoniac gas for the manufacture of ice, in Class II; chloride of calcium for the manufacture of ice, in Class III; malted or roasted barley in the grain for the manufacture of beer, in Class II; tin and cork bottle stoppers bearing the name of the factory intending to use them, in Class IV.

NITRATE PRODUCTION OF SOUTH AMERICA.

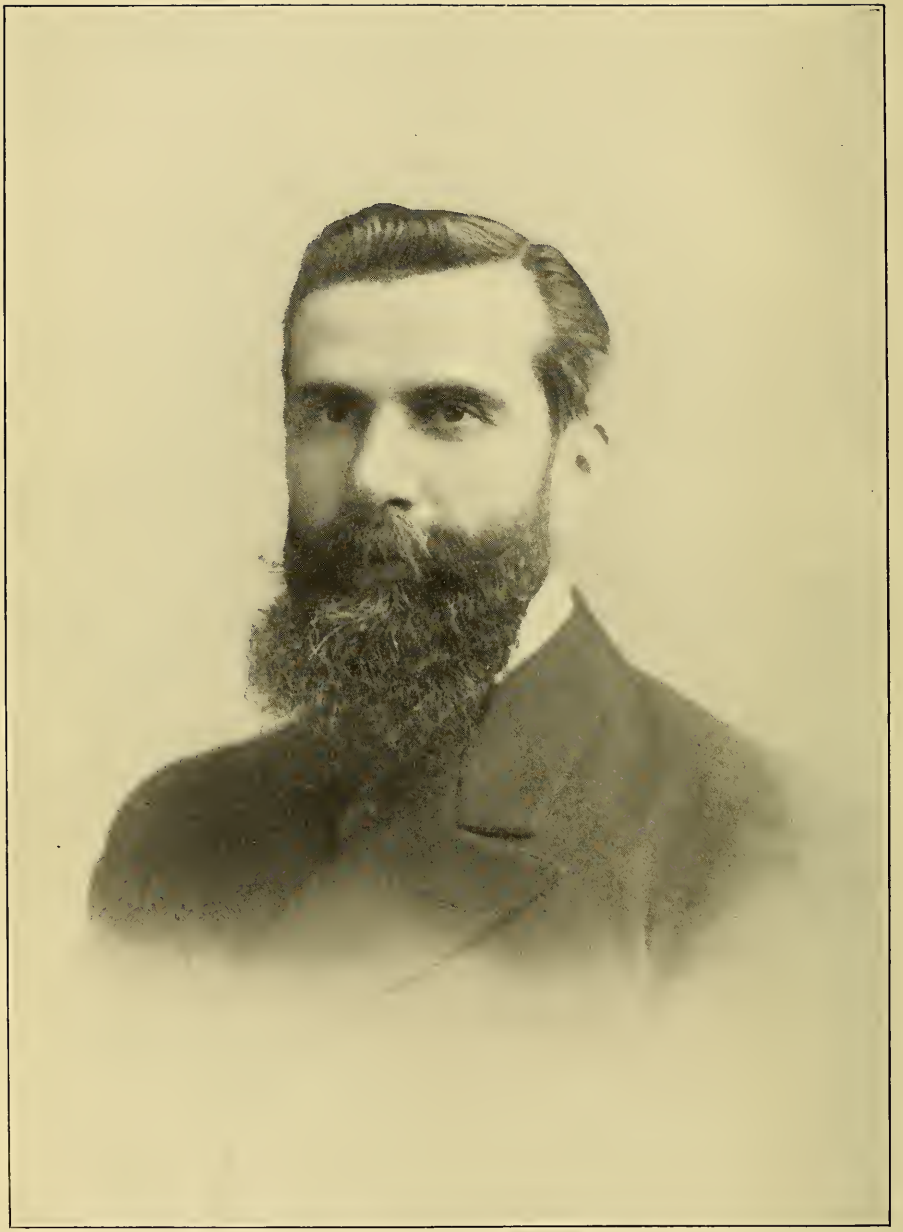
Consul ALFRED A. WINSLOW, of Valparaiso, states that from 1830 until 1907 the nitrate fields of Peru and Chile have produced 36,443,327 tons of nitrate, valued at $1,112,728,765 United States gold. He adds:

"About two-fifths of this was produced during the last ten years. There has been much said about the exhaustion of the nitrate mines or beds, but from the best information obtainable they are good for two hundred or three hundred years, even at double the production, which is about 2,000,000 tons per year. Fully one-half the production has been net profit, but a new process has been invented that will do for the nitrate business what the cyanide process did for the gold production. Heretofore from 9 to 10 per cent has been left in the waste, but with the new process it is claimed that there will not be a loss of 2 per cent and at a less cost of production than by the old method. Even the waste or tailings can be worked with a great profit."

FINANCIAL STATUS OF LATIN-AMERICAN COUNTRIES.

"*El Economista Argentino*" publishes an interesting article on the financial status of the various Republics of Latin-America by Mr. GABRIEL CARRASCO, in which the revenues and expenditures of each are recorded, with the pro rata distribution of the same among the population of the countries. The figures are, in the main, in reference to the year 1905, and are expressed in gold.

Country.	Budget.		Per head of population.	
	Expenditure.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Revenue.
Argentine Republic	$88,480,000	$89,225,000	$15.52	$15.65
Bolivia	4,675,000	4,162,000	2.59	2.28
Brazil	127,639,000	127,478,000	8.95	8.92
Chile	39,754,000	40,745,000	12.42	12.73
Colombia	14,420,000	9,149,000	3.20	2.03
Costa Rica	1,933,000	2,493,000	8.06	10.26
Cuba	19,158,000	19,699,000	12.11	12.52
Dominican Republic	2,399,000	2,427,000	5.75	5.82
Ecuador	6,119,000	5,857,000	4.82	4.60
Guatemala	13,658,000	11,500,000	7.42	6.24
Haiti	11,028,000	9,767,000	7.70	6.85
Honduras	1,670,000	1,652,000	3.07	3.04
Mexico	43,089,000	44,052,000	3.17	3.24
Nicaragua (1903)	1,887,000	1,322,000	4.37	3.08
Panama				
Paraguay (1904)	1,684,000	1,686,000	2.64	2.65
Peru	11,758,000	11,856,000	3.92	3.95
Salvador	5,070,000	5,311,000	5.07	5.31
Uruguay	19,474,000	19,590,000	19.47	19.59
Venezuela (1903)	11,606,000	11,606,000	4.48	4.48
Total	425,471,000	419,577,000	7.20	7.10



SEÑOR DON ANÍBAL CRUZ, EL NUEVO MINISTRO DE CHILE EN LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS.

Boletín Mensual

DE LA

Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas,

Unión Internacional de Repúblicas Americanas.

Vol. XXVI. ENERO 1908. No. 1.

La recepción que el Gobierno y pueblo brasileño hicieron á la armada de los Estados Unidos cuando entró en el puerto de Río de Janeiro el 12 de enero fué tan genuina y cordial, y la hospitalidad que se le brindó durante la estancia de diez días fué tan espléndida y general, que los oficiales y tripulaciones jamás las olvidarán. En ninguna época de la historia de los viajes de la marina americana por el extranjero se ha hecho un esfuerzo mayor por demostrar cuán altamente se ha apreciado su prescencia que el que ha hecho el Brasil en Río de Janeiro.

Á juzgar por las manifestaciones de que hasta ahora se tienen noticias, parece que la recepción que el Gobierno y pueblo peruanos le harán á los oficiales y tripulación de los buques en el Callao y en Lima, ha de ser caracterizada por el mismo grado de sinceridad y magnificencia que la de Río de Janeiro. Por más que Punta Arenas, que es el único punto del territorio chileno en el cual hará escala la armada, está distante de Valparaíso, que es el puerto principal, y de Santiago, que es la capital, el Gobierno Chileno está haciendo los preparativos conducentes para dar la bienvenida á la armada, de tal manera que tanto la oficialidad como la tripulación han de conservar gratos recuerdos de su breve estancia en aguas chilenas.

La presencia de la armada de los Estados Unidos en aguas sudamericanas, en su viaje hacia el Pacífico, está contribuyendo en gran manera á despertar un interés todavía mayor en todos los Estados Unidos en los asuntos de las Repúblicas latinoamericanas. Un gran número de cartas llegan á esta Oficina procedentes no sólo de los periódicos y otras publicaciones, sino de particulares impulsados, según lo hacen constar, por el deseo de tener más informes acerca de los países y puertos que dicha armada visitará ó por los cuales pasará durante su extenso viaje. Por ejemplo, á varios centenares de periódicos se les han proporcionado datos completos y descriptivos acerca de Río de Janeiro, Punta Arenas y el Callao, á

fin de que puedan publicar artículos en los cuales les describirán estos puntos á sus lectores. Á propósito de lo que queda expuesto, debe hacerse constar que antes de que la armada emprendiese el viaje, esta Oficina le facilitó á los oficiales y tripulación de cada buque una colección de las publicaciones que la Oficina ha hecho relativas á la América Latina, á fin de que al pasar por el continente de la América del Sur pudieran informarse por sí mismos acerca del mismo. Las afectuosas cartas en las cuales los capitanes de los buques han dado las gracias más sinceras por este cumplido por parte de la Oficina, demuestran lo mucho que han apreciado dicha atención.

LA PRÓXIMA CONFERENCIA PANAMERICANA.

En la reunión que el Consejo Directivo de la Oficina celebró el 8 de enero, se presentó una resolución proponiendo que la próxima Conferencia Panamericana Internacional se celebre en Buenos Aires en 1910. Se aplazó tomar una determinación acerca de dicha resolución hasta la próxima reunión del Consejo Directivo, que se celebrará el 5 de febrero de 1905, á fin de que los diferentes miembros del consejo pudieran ponerse en comunicación con sus respectivos Gobiernos y determinar su actitud sobre este particular. Al suspenderse las sesiones de la conferencia quese celebró en Río de Janeiro en 1906, se creyó generalmente que la próxima conferencia se celebraría en Buenos Aires, pero se acordó dejar á juicio del Consejo Directivo de la Oficina el determinar más tarde el verdadero lugar y la fecha en que dicha conferencia habría de celebrarse. La razón principal para preferir el año de 1910 al de 1911 á 1912, ha sido la circunstancia de que la República Argentina celebrará en dicho año el centenario de su independencia, y con tal motivo ha resuelto celebrar una gran exposición. En vista del gran progreso, así político como comercial, que se advierte en la América Latina, y de las relaciones más íntimas que están desarrollándose entre los Estados Unidos y sus Repúblicas hermanas, la Cuarta Conferencia Panamericana de seguro ha de tener que resolver muchos asuntos de trascendencia para todos los países interesados y ha de ejercer gran influencia en sus futuras relaciones.

LAS EXPOSICIONES EN LA AMÉRICA DEL SUR.

Ya el Boletín ha llamado especialmente la atención hacia la exposición que el Gobierno Brasileño celebrará en Río de Janeiro el próximo verano, y hacia la que el Gobierno Argentino se propone celebrar en Buenos Aires en 1910. Ahora el Gobierno del Ecuador anuncia que también celebrará una exposición en Quito en 1909, y ya le ha enviado

una invitación al Gobierno de los Estados Unidos para que tome parte en ella. Á fin de corresponder á esta invitación, el Presidente ROOSEVELT ha enviado un mensaje al Congreso recomendándole que haga una asignación especial con este fin. Los Gobiernos del Brasil y de la República Argentina no se proponen invitar á los países extranjeros para que tomen parte en dichas exposiciones, por más que á sus fabricantes y comerciantes se les permitirá exhibir sus artículos bajo condiciones especiales. Como quiera que el Ecuador le ha suplicado especialmente á los Estados Unidos que tome parte en dicha exposición, se espera que el Congreso asigne la cantidad de dinero necesaria para efectuar la construcción de un edificio apropiado y enviar una extensa colección de artículos á la exposición. Dentro de poco tiempo estará terminado el ferrocarril que va de Guayaquil, situada en la costa del Ecuador, hasta Quito, que es la capital, situada en el interior, de manera que los pasajeros desde que desembarcan en Guayaquil hasta el terreno de la exposición en Quito, pueden hacer el viaje en veinticuatro horas en una línea de ferrocarril que es una de las maravillas del mundo en cuanto á las grandes dificultades de ingeniería que ha tenido que vencer y el paisaje que ofrece al viajero. La misma ciudad de Quito es sin duda una de las ciudades interesantes de la América del Sur, y su clima muy es agradable. Está situada como á 10,000 pies sobre el nivel del mar y exenta del excesivo calor que se siente en la parte baja de los Trópicos, en tanto que la proximidad á que se halla del ecuador la libra de un frío intenso. Cuando se abra la exposición podrá hacerse el viaje de Nueva York á Quito en menos de diez días, y por tanto muchos norteamericanos debieran concurrir á la expresada exposición.

MEJORES CONEXIONES DE VAPORES EN LA AMÉRICA DEL SUR.

La Compañía de Vapores de LAMPORT Y HOLT merece ser felicitada por las mejoras que está introduciendo en su servicio de vapores entre Nueva York, Río de Janeiro y Buenos Aires. Hasta ahora la queja principal se fundaba en que había muy pocos vapores que ofrecieran las debidas comodidades á los pasajeros que hacían la travesía entre el puerto principal de los Estados Unidos y los puertos de escala de la costa oriental de la América del Sur. Dicha compañía ha agregado tres nuevos buques, cada uno de los cuales tiene una capacidad de 9,000 toneladas de carga y excelentes comodidades para 150 pasajeros de primera clase, 50 de segunda y para pasajeros de tercera clase. Dichos vapores son nuevos, y el que se denomina *Verdi* hará el primer viaje. Para celebrar este importante acontecimiento, el día 14 de enero se dió un gran banquete á bordo del *Verdi*, en Nueva York, al cual asistieron muchas personas promi-

nentes de Nueva York y de otras partes del país que están interesadas en el desarrollo del comercio con la América del Sur. Todos los que tuvieron ocasión de visitar é inspeccionar el vapor quedaron sumamente satisfechos de sus excelentes condiciones, y se sintieron dispuestos á emprender en seguida un viaje á la América del Sur. Es de esperarse que los viajeros de todos los Estados Unidos, que hasta ahora habían vacilado ir á la América del Sur á causa de las pocas comodidades que los vapores ofrecían, se animen y resuelvan hacer dicho viaje, ahora que pueden contar con vapores excelentes. En cambio, se espera que los sudamericanos prominentes que hasta ahora vacilaban venir á los Estados Unidos á causa de las pocas comodidades de los vapores, se decidan ahora á emprender el viaje. No existe ningún medio más eficaz de fomentar las relaciones cordiales entre diferentes países que el canje mutuo de viajes y de impresiones.

NUEVA EXPRESIÓN DEL INTERÉS QUE LA AMÉRICA LATINA INSPIRA AL PRESIDENTE ROOSEVELT.

Todos los que están interesados en el fomento de relaciones más íntimas entre los Estados Unidos y la América Latina se han mostrado muy satisfechos con las referencias que el Presidente Roosevelt hizo á la Oficina Internacional en su mensaje, reproducido en la última edición del Boletín. Después de la referencia que hizo en el mensaje, el Presidente le escribió una carta al Profesor L. S. Rowe, de la Universidad de Pensilvania, en la cual expone la especial conveniencia de que se establezca una asociación intelectual íntima entre la América del Norte y la del Sur, y demuestra un profundo interés en los proyectos que en tal sentido se lleven á cabo. En esta edición del Boletín se reproduce esta carta del Presidente.

LA PRÓXIMA CONFERENCIA DEL LAGO MOHONK.

El Señor H. C. Phillips, Secretario de la Conferencia del Lago Mohonk sobre el Arbitraje Internacional, le participa á la Oficina que la sesión de 1908 se ha de celebrar en los días 20, 21 y 22 de mayo, y que se intenta consagrar mucha atención á los asuntos panamericanos. El expresado secretario espera que esta Oficina y su Consejo Directivo se tomen especial interés en dicha conferencia, y que esté debidamente representada en sus deliberaciones. En su comunicación, el Señor Phillips dice lo siguiente: "Creo que puede decirse sin exageración que la atención que la Conferencia Panamericana del año pasado ha llamado ha sido muy beneficiosa para la causa general del arbitraje, y que una conferencia semejante este año, si se anuncia extensamente, dará resultados todavía más prácticos."

LA OFICINA DE INFORMACIÓN COLOMBIANA.

El Presidente RAFAEL REYES, de Colombia, y el Señor VÁSQUEZ COBO, Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores, han tomado una medida importante á fin de que Colombia sea más conocida en el orbe entero, estableciendo en Bogotá una Oficina Central Colombiana de Información, que tendrá sucursales en Londres, París, Bruselas, Hamburgo, Barcelona y Nueva York. En el decreto que con tal fin expidió el Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores, se hace constar que á estas sucursales se les suministrarán periódicos y otras publicaciones oficiales que revistan un interés general y puedan contribuir á proporcionar informes al público en Europa y en los Estados Unidos relativos á Colombia y á las oportunidades que en ella existen para la inversión de capital extranjero. El Ministro también anuncia que la expresada oficina ha de mantener correspondencia con la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas establecida en Wáshington, y suplica que esta última preste á la oficina colombiana la cooperación que pueda para llevar á cabo su importante obra.

CONDICIONES COMERCIALES EN COLOMBIA.

El informe sobre las condiciones comerciales en Colombia que ha preparado el Señor CHARLES M. PEPPER, Agente Especial del Departamento de Comercio y Trabajo, y que publicó recientemente la Oficina de Fabricantes, resulta muy oportuno é interesante. En dicho informe se mencionan detalladamente todos los hechos relativos ál tráfico, comercio, recursos y oportunidades en Colombia que deben conocer todos los que se propongan á hacer negocios con dicha República ó invertir capital en ella. El Señor PEPPER hizo un viaje á Colombia y estudió detenidamente sus condiciones antes de preparar este informe. En la actualidad continúa haciendo sus investigaciones en el Ecuador, Perú y otros países sudamericanos, y publicará folletos relativos á ellos.

LA ASOCIACIÓN NACIONAL DE FABRICANTES.

La Asociación Nacional de Fabricantes, que tiene su oficina principal en el No. 170 Broadway, en la ciudad de Nueva York, y cuyo presidente es el Señor JAMES W. VAN CLEAVE, de San Luis, Missouri, está desarrollando un rasgo auxiliar de su organización que reviste gran importancia. En la edición de diciembre de la revista intitulada "The American Industries," se describe gráficamente cómo dicha asociación se propone suministrar á sus miembros todos los informes que deseen relativos á las condiciones del comercio en países extranjeros. Al mismo tiempo se llama especialmente la atención hacia el hecho de

que á los comerciantes extranjeros siempre se les suministran gratis los informes que soliciten acerca de los asuntos comerciales ó industriales. Si un exportador ó comerciante de cualquiera ciudad ó país sudamericano desea hacer negocios en los Estados Unidos, desde luego puede escribir á la Asociación Nacional de Fabricantes y recibir en contestación los datos que desea en cuanto á las razones sociales con las cuales debe ponerse en comunicación. Esto ha de contribuir en gran manera al incremento del comercio entre los Estados Unidos y sus Repúblicas hermanas. Esta Oficina se complace en dar fe de la oferta de cooperación que ha recibido de la expresada asociación para fomentar el comercio panamericano, y, á su vez, siempre le ha de ser grato proporcionarles á los miembros de ella que se propongan invadir el campo latinoamericano cualesquiera informes que le sea posible obtener.

LA OFICINA EN LA TERCERA CONVENCIÓN SANITARIA INTERNACIONAL.

La activa participación que ha tomado la Oficina en la Tercera Convención Sanitaria Internacional, que se celebró en la ciudad de México en diciembre de 1907, está demostrada en el informe del Señor Don Francisco J. Yánes, Secretario de la Oficina, que estuvo presente en las sesiones de la mencionada conferencia como Representante Especial de la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas. El Señor Yánes hace especial mención en su informe, no solamente del progreso de México en la higiene moderna, sino también del creciente interés que se ha despertado en el país por la obra de la Oficina Panamericana de Washington.

ESTADÍSTICAS COMERCIALES DE LA ARGENTINA.

Las cifras publicadas por la Sección de Estadística del Departamento de Hacienda de la República Argentina, relativas al comercio exterior de los primeros nueve meses de 1907, demuestran que el balance de tráfico á favor del país es de $38,043,393, ascendiendo el valor de las importaciones á $202,835,218 y el de las exportaciones á $240,878,611. Comparando estas cifras con las correspondientes al mismo período de 1906, se observa un incremento satisfactorio tanto en uno como en otro ramo del comercio, siendo el de las importaciones de $5,519,704 y el de las exportaciones de $16,247,350.

El desarrollo de la agricultura nacional está patentizado en las estadísticas oficiales del área de terrenos sembrados durante 1907 con trigo, lino y avena, que comparadas con las de 1906 indican aumentos de importancia. Las medidas adoptadas para el despacho adecuado de productos nacionales están en consonancia con el progreso

general de que goza el país, en tanto que una ley recientemente aprobada, que declara libre la importación de toda clase de maquinaria, instrumentos y materiales para la minería y la metalurgia, promete mayor actividad en este ramo de la vida industrial.

EL BALANCE DEL COMERCIO EXTERIOR BRASILEÑO.

Á pesar de la baja que sufrieron los valores de los dos productos principales del Brasil—el café y la goma—durante los meses de agosto y septiembre de 1907, el balance del comercio á favor de la República arroja un aumento notable para el tráfico exterior de los primeros nueve meses de 1907, en comparación con el del mismo período de 1906, avanzando de $53,000,000 á $63,000,000. Las importaciones estuvieron avaluadas en $147,000,000 y las exportaciones en $210,000,000. En ambos ramos del comercio se registraron aumentos satisfactorios, y la considerable importación de maquinaria y materiales para obras públicas continuó hasta cerrarse el año.

Una medida de importancia para el fomento de las industrias nacionales fué la autorización para un nuevo banco de agricultura con capital de $10,000,000, el cual facilitará en todo lo posible el desarrollo de la agricultura, adelantando capital y concediendo crédito á empresas garantizadas.

El progreso de la agricultura recibirá un impulso mayor con el establecimiento de colonias japonesas en los Estados de São Paulo y Rio Janeiro, habiéndose celebrado ya los contratos para la introducción de los colonos.

INDUSTRIAS NACIONALES Y MODIFICACIONES ARANCELARIAS EN COLOMBIA.

En este número se publican valiosos informes sobre la fabricación de goma y algodón en la República de Colombia, los cuales fueron enviados al Departamento de Estado de los Estados Unidos por el Cónsul I. A. MANNING, de Cartagena. El incremento del cultivo de la goma en la República queda demostrado por el hecho de que durante el año de 1906 las exportaciones de Cartagena hicieron un total de 159,580 kilogramos, en tanto que sólo durante los primeros nueve meses de 1907 se exportaron 136,680 kilogramos. No solamente se están organizando plantaciones de gran extensión, sino que también se han implantado medidas preventivas contra la destrucción de la planta.

También se publican, por considerarse de interés, varias modificaciones arancelarias que entraron en vigor durante el año de 1907.

EL ENVIADO ESPECIAL DE COSTA RICA EN LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS.

Además de sus deberes como delegado de Costa Rica en la Conferencia de Paz Centroamericana que se celebró en Wáshington, el Señor Don Luis Anderson fué también honrado por su Gobierno con el nombramiento de Enviado Extraordinario y Ministro Plenipotenciario en misión especial cerca del Gobierno de los Estados Unidos. Con tal carácter fué recibido oficialmente el 12 de noviembre de 1907, y presentó al Presidente Roosevelt los cordiales saludos del Presidente Gonzáles Víquez, y del Gobierno y del pueblo de Costa Rica.

Un decreto presidencial del 2 de diciembre creó las juntas de agricultura cuyos deberes tenderán al fomento y desarrollo de la agricultura nacional, siendo el deseo del Gobierno colocar el valor industrial de los demás productos del país á la misma altura que el que ahora ocupa el banano.

En relación con el cultivo de esta fruta, el Ministro de los Estados Unidos en San José informa que en vista de que los plantadores y exportadores no han aceptado el derecho de 1 centavo impuesto sobre cada racimo (habiéndose aprobado la ley que lo impuso con sujeción á dicha aceptación), el estado de la industria queda tal como era antes de la creación de dicho impuesto.

RESULTADOS DEL CENSO DE CUBA.

El censo de la República de Cuba, tomado en 1907, arroja una población total de 2,028,282 habitantes, en comparación con 1,572,845 que acusó el levantado en 1899. Las Provincias de la Habana y Santa Clara son las más populosas. La inmigración del año económico de 1906–7 sufrió una disminución de 23,080 en comparación con el ejercicio anterior.

Las rentas aduaneras recaudadas en el Puerto de la Habana durante el año de 1907 ascendieron á $20,005,048.12, suma que arroja un aumento de $1,500,000 sobre 1906. Para atender al servicio sanitario de varios municipios y combatir la fiebre amarilla el Gobierno ha destinado la cantidad de $350,000.

RECEPCIÓN DEL NUEVO MINISTRO DE CHILE EN LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS.

Al dar la bienvenida al Señor Don Aníbal Cruz Díaz, nuevo Ministro de Chile en los Estados Unidos, la Oficina Panamericana se complace en reconocer los valiosos servicios prestados por su antecesor, el Señor Walker-Martínez, que en la actualidad representa al Departamento de Santiago ante el Senado de la República. El Señor Cruz, al hacer la presentación de sus credenciales al Presidente

de los Estados Unidos, el 16 de noviembre de 1907, manifestó que su Gobierno desea que se mantengan para siempre las relaciones cordiales que existen entre los dos países, y el Presidente ROOSEVELT expresó el mismo deseo por parte del pueblo de los Estados Unidos.

El cultivo del lino en Chile recibirá la protección del Gobierno si se aprueba el proyecto de ley que concede premios á la producción de la fibra, presentado por el Ejecutivo al Congreso el 25 de octubre de lo 1907. El proyecto mencionado dispone la cantidad de $150,000 para el pago de los premios para el lino producido, fabricado y exportado durante el espacio de doce años.

El progreso comercial del país está patentizado por el hecho de que las rentas aduaneras recaudas durante los primeros nueve meses de 1907 ascendieron á $26,000,000, arrojando un aumento de $3,000,000 sobre las de igual período del año anterior.

EXPOSICIÓN NACIONAL EN EL ECUADOR.

Para conmemorar el primer centenario de la independencia de Sur América (10 de agosto de 1809), se celebrará en Quito una exposición nacional en 1909. El decreto que dispone dicha celebración fué dictado por el Presidente ALFARO en el mes de octubre de 1907. La exposición comprenderá no solamente los recursos minerales, forestales, agrícolas, pecuarios, etc., del país, sino que también incluirá exhibiciones artísticas é históricas de interés internacional; se han ofrecido premios por artículos que versen sobre materias patrióticas é históricas. Se ha invitado á otras naciones para que participen en la exposición.

EL COMERCIO Y LAS OPORTUNIDADES DE GUATEMALA.

La inauguración del Ferrocarril Interoceánico de Guatemala, de San José, en el Pacífico, á Puerto Barrios, en el Atlántico, que se celebró el 19 de enero de 1908, da mucho interés y valor al folleto recientemente publicado por el Señor Don VÍCTOR AGUILAR PELÁEZ, Cónsul de la República en Liverpool y Manchester. Por el interés que ha despertado esta sección de la América Central, se reproduce en este número la mayor parte del folleto mencionado, la cual contiene un resumen del comercio y las condiciones económicas del país en 1906.

La entrada en la capital del primer tren de Puerto Barrios fué objeto de grandes festejos y ceremonias, y para conmemorar el suceso se está celebrando una exposición nacional. Representantes especiales de naciones extranjeras estuvieron presentes en dicha inauguración. Este frrocarril, que facilitará grandemente el transporte de los productos nacionales, tiene una extensión de 269 millas y patentiza el desarrollo de esta progresiva República.

EL ESTABLECIMIENTO DE UNA CÁMARA DE COMERCIO EN HAITÍ.

En conformidad con un decreto presidencial del 30 de noviembre de 1907, en Port-au-Prince se ha establecido una cámera de comercio con el fin de fomentar los intereses comerciales, agrícolas, industriales y marítimos de la República Haitiana. Se ha hecho una asignación de $1,800 para sufragar los gastos de la organización, y el Presidente de la República ha sido nombrado presidente honorario de aquélla. Dicha organización no sólo divulgará los debidos informes relativos á los productos é industrias del país, sino que también ha de hacer las veces de un intermediario para efectuar la distribución local de datos extranjeros que se consideren valiosos para el país.

AUMENTO DEL IMPUESTO SOBRE LA EXPORTACIÓN DE BANANOS EN HONDURAS.

Á fin de hacer frente á las exigencias acerca de la obtención de muelles que reunan mejores condiciones y mejores medios para efectuar el embarque de los bananos en los puertos del norte de Honduras, el Gobierno ha aumentado el impuesto sobre cada racimo de bananos de 2 centavos, que antes se cobraban, á 3 centavos, debiendo dedicarse el producto de dicho impuesto á las mejoras que se juzguen convenientes.

LA SITUACIÓN ECONÓMICA DE MÉXICO SEGÚN LA OPINIÓN DE SU SECRETARIO DE HACIENDA.

La publicación anual del informe del Licenciado José Ives Limantour—renombrado Secretario de Hacienda de la República Mexicana—acerca del Tesoro Nacional y su reseña del estado económico del país, hace época en los anales mexicanos. Todas las personas que deseen tener un conocimiento exacto de los asuntos mexicanos deben leer el informe que el expresado Secretario presentó al Congreso Nacional el 14 de diciembre de 1907. En esta edición del Boletin se publica un resumen que comprende los puntos más culminantes de dicho informe, y en ellos se demuestran las condiciones satisfactorias que prevalecen en toda esta parte importante de la Unión Panamericana.

El informe acerca del comercio correspondiente al primer trimestre del año económico de 1907–8, muestra un aumento de más de $5,000,000 en el valor tanto de las importaciones como de las exportaciones de la República, y resulta tanto más satisfactorio cuanto que en los períodos correspondientes de los dos años económicos anteriores ocurrió una baja en el valor de las exportaciones hechas de los puertos mexicanos.

Las mejoras que se están introduciendo y que se han proyectado en los términos del Atlántico y del Pacifico del Ferrocarril de Tehuantepec, están siendo objeto de gran interés entre los que se proponen fomentar el comercio transismiano, y se trata de que Salina Cruz y Coatzacoalcos se coloquen al nivel de otros puertos del mundo en cuanto á los medios de trasbordo de mercancías.

EL MENSAJE DEL PRESIDENTE DE NICARAGUA.

El mensaje que el Presidente ZELAYA le dirigió al Congreso Nicaragüense el 1° de diciembre de 1907, es un documento importante que contiene la opinión del Ejecutivo acerca de la Conferencia de Paz celebrada en Wáshington y de sus causas y resultados.

La concesión que el Gobierno le hizo á los Señores GUERRERO Y MOREIRA para efectuar la explotación de bosques de goma de la República durante un período de diez años, á contar del 10 de septiembre de 1905, ha sido traspasada á la "Atlantic Industrial Company," que continuará los trabajos ya emprendidos por los antiguos concesionarios con arreglo á las cláusulas del contrato gubernamental.

La nueva ley de marcas de fábrica que fué promulgada el 27 de noviembre de 1907, ha de influir poderosamente en la protección industrial en Nicaragua, y tiene por objeto proteger tanto los negocios extranjeros como los del país.

EL INFORME DEL CÓNSUL KELLOGG DE COLÓN, PANAMÁ.

El informe que ha presentado el Señor JAMES C. KELLOGG, Cónsul de los Estados Unides en Colón, Panamá, acerca del Puerto de Bocas del Toro, muestra que por más que las importaciones por dicho puerto durante el año económico de 1907 se aumentaron en comparación con el año anterior, hubo una disminución en el valor de las exportaciones. Se espera que la exportación de bananos á Europa, para la cual se han hecho extensos preparativos proveyendo los vapores de aparatos refrigeradores, ha de producir mejores resultados en el presente año. Dícese que los Estados Unidos hacen más negocios en este puerto que las demás naciones.

ESTABLECIMIENTO DE UN BANCO NACIONAL EN EL PARAGUAY.

Al Congreso Paraguayo se le ha presentado un proyecto para llevar á cabo el establecimiento de un banco mixto con la autorización del Gobierno, que se denominará "Banco de La República," con un capital de $20,000,000 oro. En esta edición del BOLETÍN se publican las varias operaciones de este banco.

NUEVO SERVICIO DE VAPORES ENTRE NUEVA YORK Y EL CALLAO.

La inauguración de un nuevo servicio de vapores entre Nueva York y el Callao, vía Panamá, ha de traer consigo un gran adelanto económico en las relaciones de estas dos regiones comerciales. Se espera que esta empresa, bajo los auspicios de la "National Steamship and Floating Dock Company of Callao," estará operando por completo á principios de 1908, y además de contar con un capital de $15,000,000, tiene una subvención de $1,500,000 del Gobierno peruano.

LA RENTA DE ADUANA DEL SALVADOR.

En los últimos datos estadísticos que se han obtenido se advierte una disminución de $145,904.42 en la renta de aduana del Salvador, que en el primer trimestre de 1907 ascendió á $543,624.72, en comparación con el período correspondiente de 1907.

LA RENTA DE ADUANA DEL URUGUAY.

Por más que la renta de aduana del Uruguay mostró una pequeña disminución en octubre de 1907, en comparación con la del mes correspondiente de 1906, el valor total correspondiente al perído de diez meses que terminó en octubre, muestra un aumento, puesto que en los dos años de referencia, en los meses de enero á octubre, dicho valor ascendió à $11,271,871 y $11,006,539, respectivamente.

Se han efectuado cambios importantes en la ley de impuestos uruguaya de 1908, tal como ha sido presentada por la legislatura al Gobierno. Uno de los preceptos de dicha ley eleva de 3 centavos que antes se cobraban á 7 centavos el impuesto sobre compañías de seguros extranjeras establecidas en la República.

AUMENTO DE DERECHOS DE IMPORTACIÓN EN VENEZUELA.

Por un decreto del 14 de noviembre de 1907 el Gobierno Venezolano ha impuesto un recargo á varias substancias alimenticias y artículos de uso doméstico. Otros artículos están comprendidos en las recientes modificaciones arancelarias.

EL PRIMER CONGRESO CIENTÍFICO PANAMERICANO.

El Primer Congreso Científico Panamericano se celebró en 1898 en Buenos Aires, capital de la República Argentina; la segunda sesión del Congreso se efectuó en 1901 en Montevideo, capital del Uruguay, y la tercera se celebró en 1905 en Río de Janeiro, capital del Brasil.

Ahora se ha resuelto celebrar la cuarta sesión en Santiago, capital de Chile, en los diez primeros días del mes de diciembre de 1908, y con tal fin el Gobierno chileno ha enviado las invitaciones correspondientes.

Además, se ha resuelto extender la esfera de acción del Congreso de manera que incluya todas las Repúblicas Americanas, y con tal fin el Gobierno chileno ha invitado oficialmente al Gobierno de los Estados Unidos. Al mismo tiempo, el Congreso, en vez de denominarse Cuarto Congreso Científico Latinoamericano, se denominará Primer Congreso Científico Panamericano, cual corresponde á su aumentada representación. Más adelante en la presente se inserta el mensaje del Presidente ROOSEVELT al transmitir al Congreso el informe del Secretario ROOT acerca de este asunto. El Presidente en su citado mensaje aprueba sinceramente la recomendación del Señor ROOT, á saber: Que se haga una asignación suficiente para que los Estados Unidos sean debidamente representados en dicho Congreso.

"*Al Senado y Cámara de Representantes:*

"Adjunto remito para la consideración de las respectivas Cámaras del Congreso, un informe del Secretario de Estado en el cual expone la conveniencia de que se tome una pronta determinación á fin de que correspondiendo á la invitación del Gobierno de Chile, el Gobierno de los Estados Unidos pueda ser dignamente representado en el Primer Congreso Científico Panamericano que se ha de celebrar en Santiago, Chile, en los diez primeros días del mes de diciembre de 1908.

"Apruebo sinceramente las recomendaciones que se hacen en este informe, y espero que el Congreso tenga á bien hacer oportunamente la debida asignación para que el Gobierno pueda corresponder de una manera apropiada á la invitación del Gobierno de Chile, enviando delegados á un Congreso que no puede menos de revestir gran interés é importancia para los Gobiernos y pueblos de todas las Repúblicas Americanas.

"THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

"CASA BLANCA, *diciembre 21 de 1907.*"

"*Al Presidente:*

"El Gobierno de Chile ha invitado al Gobierno de los Estados Unidos para que tome parte y sea representado por medio de delegados

en el Congreso Científico Panamericano que se ha de reunir bajo sus auspicios en la ciudad de Santiago, capital de dicha República, durante diez días, comenzando el 1° de diciembre de 1908. Los trabajos del Congreso han de comprender nueve secciones, que se consagrarán respectivamente á las matemáticas puras y aplicadas, la física, ciencias naturales, ingeniería, medicina é higiene, antropología, jurisprudencia y sociología, pedagogía, y agricultura é industria animal.

"Hasta ahora se han celebrado los siguientes Congresos Científicos Latinoamericanos: En 1898 en Buenos Aires, en 1901 en Montevideo, y en 1905 en Río de Janeiro. Como resultado de estas conferencias previas, el Congreso de 1908 será el Primer Congreso Panamericano. Ha de estudiar y discutir muchos asuntos de suma importancia en los cuales están especial y mutuamente interesadas todas las Repúblicas Americanas, y tendrá por objeto principal reunir los más prominentes hombres de ciencia de este hemisferio para investigar muchos problemas eminentemente americanos y efectuar un intercambio de experiencias y opiniones que debe redundar en beneficio de todas las naciones interesadas.

"Por consiguiente, es sumamente propio que los Estados Unidos sean debidamente representados en este importante Primer Congreso Científico Panamericano, y que aprovechen esta oportunidad para cooperar en investigaciones científicas con los representantes de otras Repúblicas Americanas. Es digno de tomarse en consideración que amén del beneficio que han de recibir los intereses puramente científicos por virtud de dicho Congreso, y además de las ventajas que se derivarán de un intercambio de impresiones y del trato de hombres de ciencia de los países americanos y la buena inteligencia y amistosas relaciones que así se han de estimular, existen muchas relaciones especiales que surgen del íntimo contacto entre los Estados Unidos y varios países latinoamericanos, que son consiguientes al ensanche de nuestro comercio, el incremento de nuestras inversiones de capital y á la construcción del Canal de Panamá, lo cual hace que una común inteligencia y libre cambio de impresiones sobre asuntos científicos resulte de gran importancia práctica.

"Á fin de que nuestra representación pueda llevarse á cabo, tengo el honor de recomendar que se pida al Congreso que asigne la suma de $35,000, ó la cantidad de esa suma que sea necesaria, para que los Estados Unidos puedan enviar un número de delegados que corresponda al número de secciones en que se ha de dividir el Congreso, junto con un Secretario y un habilitado, y para sufragar otros gastos necesarios.

"Como quiera que es de desear que todas las comunicaciones ú obras científicas que hayan de presentarse en el Congreso se reciban antes del 30 de septiembre, se espera que la autorización para que

este Gobierno tome parte en dicho Congreso sea concedida tan pronto como sea posible, y que en seguida pueda disponerse de la asignación.

"Se somete respetuosamente.

"ELIHU ROOT.

"DEPARTAMENTO DE ESTADO,
"Washington, diciembre 19 de 1907."

LA TERCERA CONVENCIÓN SANITARIA INTERNACIONAL.

Á continuación se publica el informe presentado á Mr. JOHN BARRETT, Director de la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas, por el Señor Don FRANCISCO J. YÁNES, Secretario de la misma, relativo á los trabajos de la Tercera Conferencia Sanitaria Internacional, que se celebró en la Cuidad de México en diciembre de 1907, y en la cual tomó parte como representante especial de la oficina:

"WÁSHINGTON, D. C., 31 *de diciembre de 1907.*

"SEÑOR: Tengo el honor de someter á la consideración de usted el siguiente informe, relativo á la Tercera Conferencia Sanitaria Internacional que se celebró en la Ciudad de México del 2 al 7 de diciembre de 1907, y en la cual estuve presente con el carácter de representante especial de la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas, de conformidad con sus instrucciones de fecha 27 de noviembre de 1907.

"La convocatoria para la reunión de la Tercera Conferencia Sanitaria Internacional y el programa provisional fueron transmitidos por la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas á los distintos Gobiernos de la Unión, por medio de los miembros del Consejo Directivo de la Oficina, con fecha 11 de julio de 1907, y de acuerdo con la convocatoria y el programa mencionados, la Tercera Conferencia Sanitaria Internacional se declaró constituída á las 10 de la mañana del martes, 2 de diciembre de 1907, en el Gran Salón del Departamento de Hacienda situado en el Palacio Nacional. En esta sesión inaugural pronunciaron discursos de bienvenida los Señores Don RAMÓN CORRAL, Vicepresidente de la República y Secretario de lo Interior, y el Doctor EDUARDO LICÉAGA, presidente de la Convención y de la delegación mexicana. Todas las delegaciones presentes contestaron con breves y apropiados discursos.

"Los siguientes delegados estaban presentes en la sesión inaugural:

"*Brasil.*—Dr. OSWALDO DE GONÇALVEZ CRUZ.

"*Chile.*—Doctores ERNESTO SOZA y PEDRO LAUTARO FERRER.

"*Colombia.*—Doctores RICARDO GUTIERRES LEE y GENARO PAYAN.

"*Costa Rica.*—Doctor JUAN JOSÉ ULLOA.

"*Cuba.*—Doctores HUGO ROBERTS y JUAN GUITERAS.

"*Ecuador.*—Doctor JUAN HORACIO ESTEVES.

"*Guatemala.*—Doctores SALVADOR ORTEGA y JOSÉ AZURDIA.

"*Honduras.*—Doctor LUIS LAZO ARRIAGA.

"*México.*—Doctor E. LICÉAGA, Licenciado JOSÉ ALGARA, é Ingeniero H. ELGUERO.

"*Salvador.*—Doctor RODOLFO B. GONZALEZ.

"*Estados Unidos.*—Doctores WALTER WYMAN, R. H. VON EZDORF, P. T. STRAUB, JAMES GATEWOOD, CHARLES HARRINGTON, W. G. OWEN, RHETT GOODE, y H. L. E. JOHNSON.

"El Doctor E. FERNANDEZ ESPIRO, del Uruguay, llegó hacia el final de la conferencia, á causa de retrasos que sufrió durante el viaje.

"Los siguientes delegados fueron elegidos vicepresidentes: Doctor WALTER WYMAN, de los Estadas Unidos; Doctor OSWALDO DE GONÇALVEZ CRUZ, del Brasil; Doctor JUAN J. ULLOA, de Costa Rica; Doctor JUAN GUITERAS, de Cuba; Doctor ERNESTO SOZA, de Chile; Doctor SALVADOR ORTEGA, de Guatemala; Doctor LUIS LAZO ARRIAGA, de Honduras, y Doctor GREGORIO MENDIZÁBAL, de Nicaragua.

"Las siguientes comisiones fueron nombradas: De credenciales; consultiva; de fiebre amarilla; de peste bubónica; de tracoma, beriberi, y meningitis cerebro-espinal, y de tuberculosis.

"Á causa del retraso motivado por varios descarrilamientos de trenes de mercancías no llegué á la ciudad de México sino hasta la mañana del 3 de diciembre, razón por la cual no estuve presente en la sesión inaugural.

"Al presentar mis credenciales al Doctor EDUARDO LICÉAGA, y á propuesta del Cirujano General WYMAN, que fué unánimamente aprobada, se hicieron extensivas las prerrogativas de la Convención al Representante Especial de la Oficina.

Al dar las gracias á la Convención por su cortés recibimiento manifesté que la Oficina tomaba un grande interés por el altruista y humanitario trabajo que llevaba á cabo, y que, como representante especial de esta institución, era el portador de los cordiales saludos, no sólo del Consejo Directivo, sino también del Director, quien me había encomendado personalmente la placentera misión de presentar á la Conferencia la expresión de sus buenos deseos. Dije, además, que el Director hubiera venido personalmente á saludar á los delegados si no hubiera sido por el hecho de que en aquellos momentos tenía lugar bajo nuestro techo otro suceso de importancia universal—la Conferencia de Paz Centroamericana—que impidió su salida de la capital de los Estados Unidos. También manifesté que en aquellos momentos la Oficina sentía una gran satisfacción porque todos los países de la América Latina parecían estar ocupados en obras magnas y nobles—por una parte, las Repúblicas de la América Central se hallaban ajustando sus diferencias en Wáshington y plantando los

cimientos de su futuro bienestar, en tanto que por otra, la mayoría de los países latinoamericanos se hallaba congregada en la hospitalaria Ciudad de México trabajando por la causa común de la humanidad.

El programa preparado por la delegación mexicana incluía, además de las materias de que había de tratarse en la Convención, una recepción dada por Su Excelencia el General Porfirio Díaz, Presidente de la República, visitas á la Nueva Casa de Correos, á la Penitenciaria, al Castillo de Chapultepec, al Consejo Superior de Salubridad, á las obras de provisión de aguas potables y á Xochimilco, á los nuevos alrededores llamados "Colonias," al Hospital General, y á la estación de bombas de inyección de aguas para el lavado de atarjeas, así como también conciertos, banquetes y otros actos de cortesía y hospitalidad.

"En el día de la última sesión, 7 de diciembre de 1907, la Comisión Consultiva, á cuya consideración se sometieron todas las propuestas que requirían acción importante, recomendó que la Convención adoptará las siguientes resoluciones:

"Adhesión por parte del Brasil, Colombia y el Uruguay á la Convención Sanitaria de Wáshington.

"Codificación de todas las leyes y reglamentos sanitarios de los gobiernos representados en la convención, para que sean trasmitidos á la Oficina Sanitaria Internacional en Wáshington una vez codificados.

"Autorizar á la Oficina Sanitaria Internacional en Wáshington para que establezca relaciones con el 'Bureau International Sanitaire' de Paris, de acuerdo con la recomendación de la Tercera Conferencia Panamericana de Río Janeiro.

"Ordenar al secretario de la Convención que incluya en la publicación de los trabajos de la Tercera Convención Sanitaria Internacional, un sumario de todas las resoluciones adoptadas por las convenciones anteriores que se celebraron en Wáshington.

"Solicitar de todos los gobiernos de la América que implanten en sus respectivos países la vacunación obligatoria.

"Gestionar con los gobiernos representados en la Convención la conveniencia de declarar libre de todo derecho é impuesto la quinina, tela metálica fina á prueba de mosquitos y otros materiales usados para la protección contra estos insectos y el petróleo crudo.

"Recomendar á los distintos gobiernos el establecimiento de dispensarios en puntos determinados para la distribución gratis, bajo ciertas condiciones, de quinina entre pobres.

"Recomendar una propaganda activa en escuelas, fábricas, cuarteles y otros sitios públicos con el fin de instruir al pueblo en la etiologia, profilaxia y tratamiento del paludismo.

"Recomendar la publicación de folletos, que sean distribuídos gratuitamente, en los cuales se contengan brevemente y en forma práctica y sencilla conocimientos concernientes á las fiebres palúdicas.

"Recomendar que las autoridades marítimas incluyan en sus informes de sanidad estadísticas relativas á la mortalidad causada por el paludismo.

"Recomendar á los distintos gobiernos que prohiban la inmigración de personas que sufren de tracoma ó beriberi.

"Recomendar la adopción devarias medidas indicadas para la prevención de la tuberculosis en vapores y ferrocarriles.

"Recomendar la nacionalización y centralización de las autoridades de sanidad.

"También fueron adoptadas otras resoluciones que afectan directamente las relaciones de la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas con la Convención Sanitaria; una presentada por el Doctór LICÉAGA, al efecto de que las convocatorias para las conferencias sanitarias, además de ser trasmitidas por dicha Oficina, lo sean también por el gobierno del país en donde se haya de celebrar la reunión. El Cirujano General WYMAN, de los Estados Unidos, propuso una resolución pidiendo que se destine un local en la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas para un empleado especial que atienda á los asuntos relativos á las conferencias sanitarias.

"El Doctor ULLOA, de Costa Rica, presentó también una propuesta rogando á los delegados que remitan uno ó dos ejemplares de sus respectivos informes, ú otros trabajos, á la Biblioteca de Colón de la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas.

"Al disponerse el establecimiento de la Oficina de Información Sanitaria en Montevideo, se decidió que, con el fin de facilitar el trabajo, el Brasil, la Argentina, el Paraguay, Chile y el Perú comuniquen directamente con Montevideo, y que los demás países latinoamericanos lo hagan con la Oficina Sanitaria de Wáshington.

"Si bien los delegados del Brasil, Chile y el Uruguay demostraron su buena voluntad de que la Cuarta Conferencia se celebrará en las capitales de sus respectivos países, al discutirse la selección del lugar para la próxima conferencia, el Doctor CRUZ, del Brasil, propuso que se designara la ciudad de San José de Costa Rica con tal objeto, lo que se acordó por aclamación. Entonces se decidió que la reunión tuviera lugar en el mes de diciembre de 1909. El Doctor JUAN J. ULLOA fué elegido unánimamente como presidente de la próxima Convención.

"La preparación final de los informes y trabajos de la convención está encomendada al Doctor ULLOA, de Costa Rica, Secretario de la Convención, quien los remitirá dentro de breve tiempo á la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas para su publicación y distribución.

"Á propuesta del Doctor FERNÁNDEZ ESPIRO, del Uruguay, los funcionarios de la Oficina Sanitaria Internacional fueron unánimamente reelegidos para el próximo período.

"Después de los breves discursos de despedida que pronunciaron los delegados y el presidente, Doctor LICÉAGA, se declaró terminada la Conferencia hasta que se volviera á reunir en 1909.

"Antes de dar término á esta breve memoria sobre los trabajos de la Tercera Conferencia Sanitaria Internacional, haré mención especial del enorme progreso que ha hecho México en el establecimiento de condiciones sanitarias modernas en sus principales ciudades y puertos. El Gobierno Federal ha destinado las siguientes sumas para el saneamiento de la capital de la República y de los puertos principales:

	Pesos mexicanos.
Ciudad de México	$28, 517, 900. 17
Puerto de Manzanillo	7, 882, 760. 00
Puerto de Veracruz	3, 864, 493. 94
Puerto de Tampico	2, 999, 779. 73
Puerto de Salina Cruz	1, 190, 313. 30
Puerto México	1, 276, 114. 50
Total	45, 831, 361. 64

"Del presupuesto que antecede todavía quedan por gastar 801,-913.06 pesos.

"Las cantidades invertidas hasta ahora en el saneamiento de la Ciudad de México han sido como sigue:

	Pesos mexicanos.
Obras de desagüe del valle de México	$15, 967, 778. 17
Saneamiento general de la ciudad	8, 210, 138. 25
Obras para el abastecimiento de aguas	4, 339, 983. 75
	28, 511, 900. 18

"También es digno de mención especial el interés que todos los mexicanos, desde las autoridades más altas hasta los particulares, demuestran en la obra que está llevando á cabo la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas. Parece que todos participan de la opinión general de que la Oficina ha entrado por fin en una verdadera era de reorganización desde que la Tercera Conferencia Panamericana se reunió en Río Janeiro y ensanchó su esfera de acción, tanto comercialmente como también desde un punto de vista moral y de influencia, y, finalmente, por la razón de que pronto contará con su propio edificio. Observé que el BOLETÍN es leído y apreciado y que las mejoras introducidas en él son favorablemente comentadas por los lectores mexicanos.

"Soy de Ud. atento servidor,

"FRANCISCO J. YÁNES."

"Al Honorable Sr. JOHN BARRETT,

"Director de la Oficina International de las Repúblicas Americanas,

"Washington."

IMPORTANTE CARTA DEL PRESIDENTE ROOSEVELT.

El Profesor L. S. Rowe, de la Universidad de Pensilvania, que fué uno de los delegados de los Estados Unidos á la Tercera Conferencia Internacional Americana que se celebró en Río de Janeiro en julio de 1906, después que terminó la Conferencia, emprendió un extenso viaje por la América del Sur, en el cual invirtió año y medio.

Después de su regreso de la América del Sur, el Profesor Rowe ha tenido una conferencia con el Presidente Roosevelt acerca de los fines y resultados de su viaje, y sobre todo tocante á los planes que ha formulado para cultivar relaciones intelectuales más íntimas entre los Estados Unidos y las Repúblicas hermanas del sur. El Boletín tiene el gusto de publicar la siguiente carta de aprobación que el Presidente Roosevelt le ha dirigido al Profesor Rowe:

"Mi estimado Señor Rowe: Me ha sido sumamente grato platicar con usted acerca de los resultados de su viaje por la América del Sur, así como en cuanto á los varios proyectos que tiene usted en la mente para fomentar relaciones intelectuales más íntimas entre las regiones del norte y del sur del Continente Americano. Creo de suma importancia que además de las relaciones amistosas que existen entre los Gobiernos de las Repúblicas Americanas, se formen y cultiven estrechos vínculos personales entre los primeros pensadores de estas Repúblicas. Dichas relaciones personales propenden poderosa y eficazmente á destruír las necias prevenciones y conceptos erróneos que son consecuencia de la falta del mutuo conocimiento. En este hemisferio occidental, cada una de nuestras Repúblicas puede aprender y enseñar á su vez cuando se pone en contacto con sus Repúblicas hermanas.

"No creo que existan factores que se adapten mejor á la consumación de este gran fin que las universidades del Continente Americano. Hay muchos problemas económicos, sociales é industriales—pasando por alto otros de índole puramente científica—que son eminentemente americanos y de trascendencia continental. Mediante la cooperación de los pensadores é investigadores de nuestras diferentes naciones, puede hacerse que la experiencia acumulada de este hemisferio ejerza la debida influencia en estos problemas, haciendo más probable su feliz solución. La comunidad de ideas y acción que de esta manera se despierta ha de prestar también un servicio patriótico mayor al unir íntimamente cada vez más todos los pueblos del hemisferio occidental.

"De todo corazón deseo que este proyecto obtenga un éxito completo.

"Quedo de usted sinceramente,

"Theodore Roosevelt."

CONGRESO INTERNACIONAL SOBRE LA TUBERCULOSIS.

El Congreso Internacional sobre la Tuberculosis se celebrará en la ciudad de Wáshington durante los días comprendidos del 21 de septiembre al 12 de octubre de 1908.

Los preparativos para la conferencia se están llevando á cabo con actividad por todos los Estados Unidos y en varios países del extranjero. Hasta la fecha se han organizado comisiones nacionales en Francia, Alemania, Suecia, Austria, Holanda, Grecia, Bulgaria, Cuba, Venezuela, Brasil y Costa Rica. La comisión francesa, presidida por el Doctor Louis Landouzy, de la Facultad de Medicina de la Universidad de Paris, está compuesta de más de trescientos eminentes médicos de Francia.

El Doctor A. Herrera Vegas, presidente de la comisión venezolana, lo es también de la Liga Antituberculosa Venezolana y miembro de la Academia Nacional de Medicina de Caracas; el Doctor P. Acosta Ortiz, vicepresidente, es director del Hospital de Vargas, y el Doctor L. Razetti, uno de los miembros de la comisión, es vicerector de la Universidad de Venezuela y secretario permanente de la Academia Nacional de Medicina.

Todos los miembros de la comisión brasileña se hallan interesados activamente en la campaña antituberculosa que se lleva á cabo en su país. Entre ellos se hallan el Doctor J. J. Azevedo Lima, de Rio Janeiro, presidente de la Liga Antituberculosa Brasileña; el Doctor Oswaldo Cruz, Director General del Departamento de Sanidad Pública; el Doctor J. J. Seabra y el Doctor Cipriano de Freitas, de Río Janeiro.

El presidente de la comisión cubana es el Doctor Guiteras, profesor que fué de patología en la Universidad de Pensilvania y que actualmente lo es de la Universidad de la Habana. El Doctor J. L. Jacobsen, vicepresidente de la comisión, es el presidente de la Liga Antituberculosa Cubana. El secretario de la comisión es el Doctor M. G. Lebredo, de la Habana. Esta comisión cuenta con dos miembros de reputación universal, el Doctor Arístides Agramonte, el único miembro superviviente de la famosa comisión del Ejército Americano para el estudio de la fiebra amarilla, yel Doctor Carlos J. Finlay, á quien le fué concedida recientemente la medalla "Mary McKinley" por la Asociación de Liverpool para el Estudio de Enfermedades Tropicales.

La comisión costarricense ha elegido como presidente al Doctor Luis P. Jiménez, y como secretario al Doctor Teodoro Picado. Los demás miembros son los Doctores Teodoro Prestinary, Benjamín Hernández, y Marcos Zúñiga. Todos estos señores son de la ciudad de San José.

ESTADO FINANCIERO DE LOS PAÍSES LATINO-AMERICANOS.

El Señor Gabriel Carrasco publica en el "Economista Argentino" un interesante artículo sobre el estado financiero de las varias Repúblicas de la América Latina, en el cual se consignan los ingresos y egresos de cada país, junto con una distribución prorrata de dichos ingresos y egresos entre los habitantes de los expresados países. Las cifras se refieren mayormente al año de 1905:

	Egresos.	Presupuesto.	Egresos per capita.	Ingresos per capita.
República Argentina	$88,480,000	$89,225,000	$15.52	$15.65
Bolivia	4,675,000	4,162,000	2.59	2.28
Brasil	127,639,000	127,478,000	8.95	8.92
Chile	39,754,000	40,745,000	12.42	12.73
Colombia	14,420,000	9,149,000	3.20	2.03
Costa Rica	1,933,000	2,493,000	8.06	10.26
Cuba	19,138,000	19,699,000	12.11	12.52
República Dominicana	2,399,000	2,427,000	5.75	5.82
Ecuador	6,119,000	5,857,000	4.82	4.60
Guatemala	13,658,000	11,500,000	7.42	6.24
Haití	11,028,000	9,767,000	7.70	6.85
Honduras	1,670,000	1,652,000	3.07	3.04
México	43,089,000	44,052,000	3.17	3.24
Nicaragua (1903)	1,887,000	1,322,000	4.37	3.08
Paraguay (1904)	1,084,000	1,686,000	2.64	2.65
Panamá				
Perú	11,758,000	11,856,000	3.92	3.95
Salvador	5,070,000	5,311,000	5.07	5.31
Uruguay	19,474,000	19,590,000	19.47	19.59
Venezuela (1903)	11,606,000	11,606,000	4.48	4.48
	425,471,000	419,577,000	7.20	7.10

REPÚBLICA ARGENTINA.

COMERCIO EXTRANJERO EN LOS NUEVE PRIMEROS MESES DE 1907.

La Oficina de Estadística del Gobierno Argentino ha expedido su boletín regular, intitulado "El Comercio Exterior Argentino," que comprende el comercio extranjero de la República durante los nueve primeros meses transcurridos de enero á septiembre de 1907. El valor de las importaciones durante dicho período se calcula en $202,835,218 en oro, lo cual muestra un aumento de $5,519,704 en comparación con los mismos nueve meses de 1906; el valor de las exportaciones se calcula en $240,878,611, ó sea un aumento de $16,247,350 respecto del período correspondiente del año anterior. El valor de las importaciones imponibles se calcula en $128,184,517 y el de las importaciones libres de derecho en $74,650,701, en tanto que el valor de las importaciones de oro y plata se calculan en $23,440,946. En la lista de exportaciones los productos imponibles se valuaron en $868, en tanto que el valor de los productos que se exportaron libres de derechos ascendió á $240,877,743 y el valor de las exportaciones de oro y plata ascendió á $281,750.

Por las cifras que anteceden se advierte que el aumento del valor de las exportaciones de productos de la República comparado con el de las importaciones en los nueve meses de referencia asciende á $38,043,393, en tanto que el valor de las importaciones de oro y plata excedió en $23,159,193 al de las exportaciones de dichos metales.

En la distribución de las importaciones por países de procedencia, el valor de las que se hicieron del Reino Unido, que va á la cabeza de la lista de dichos países, ascendió á $71,964,236; sigue Alemania, que representa $32,131,549; los Estados Unidos, que representan $26,476,423; Francia, $18,447,927; Italia, $17,577,375; Bélgica, $11,471,881; Brasil, $5,371,957; España, $5,191,250; Uruguay, $1,874,291; Austria-Hungría, $1,731,721; los Países Bajos, $1,162,336; Paraguay, $983,143; Chile, $313,955; Bolivia, $105,457, y Africa, $15,997.

Bajo la denominación general de "Otros países de procedencia," se incluyen Australia, que representa $44,418; Canadá, $687,141; Colombia, $2,493; Cuba, $386,964; China, $404,409; Dinamarca, $38,744; Ecuador, $23,528; Egipto, $1,103; Grecia, $31,555; Guatemala, $689; Japón, $147,764; México, $3,622; Noruega, $336,171; Persia, $547; Perú, $531,843; Portugal, $208,287; Posesiones francesas, $6,875; Colonias holandesas, $30,039; Colonias británicas, $2,641,515; Colonias norteamericanas, $9,855; Rumania, $1,675; Rusia, $261,815; Salvador, $708; República Dominicana, $287; Suecia, $280,076; Suiza, $1,567,371; Turquía, $30,044, y Venezuela, $9,633.

En comparación con los nueve primeros meses de 1906, se advierten aumentos tanto en los artículos como en el valor de los que se han importado de los siguientes países: Alemania, $3,617,968; Reino Unido, $2,803,301; Bélgica, $2,262,096; Austria-Hungría, $545,587; Uruguay, $520,521; Brasil, $598,085; Paraguay, $84,318, y Bolivia, $10,862.

Se nota una baja en el valor de las importaciones hechas de los países siguientes: Francia, $2,216,698; Italia, $1,009,397; Estados Unidos, $719,829; España, $358,155; Chile, $132,410; Países Bajos, $27,344, y Africa, $5,265.

En los nueve primeros meses de 1905, el Reino Unido va á la cabeza de los países que han recibido exportaciones de la República Argentina, habiéndole comprado artículos por valor de $40,561,376, luego sigue Alemania, que le compró $28,784,527; Francia, $28,351,594; Bélgica, $24,637,882; Brasil, $10,388,686; los Estados Unidos, $8,627,941; los Países Bajos, $3,526,970; Italia, $3,283,705; Uruguay, $2,839,833; Chile, $1,586,677; África, $1,326,650; España, $1,287,154; Bolivia, $543,853; Austria-Hungría, $521,492, y Paraguay, $117,139.

Bajo la denominación de "Otros países de procedencia" se incluyen á Cuba, que representa $217,811; Dinamarca, $89,238; Noruega,

$1,061,144; Perú, $90,613; Portugal, $25,401; Colonias francesas, $664; Colonias británicas, $45,197, y Suecia, $665,149.

El valor de las exportaciones de los países que á continuación se expresan, muestra los siguientes aumentos: Reino Unido, $9,300,538; Bélgica, $5,027,366; Francia, $3,711,702; Brasil, $1,598,683; Países Bajos, $1,189,856; Austria-Hungría, $486,951; Chile, $430,984, y Bolivia, $246,076.

En el valor de las exportaciones se notan las siguientes bajas: Á África, $1,557,171; á los Estados Unidos, $1,701,312; á Italia, $1,526,770; al Uruguay, $977,049; á España, $574,033; á Alemania, $399,408, y al Paraguay, $17,709.

En la década transcurrida de 1898 á 1907, el valor de las importaciones en los nueve primeros meses de 1906 excede al de todos los años anteriores, en tanto que durante dicho período únicamente en 1905 hubo un aumento en el valor de las exportaciones, habiendo ascendido éstas á $247,110,133.

El valor de las importaciones del año se calcula oficialmente en $268,655,917, en comparación con $269,970,521 en 1906; al paso que el valor de las exportaciones se calcula en $318,622,501, contra $292,-253,829 en el año anterior.

En las importaciones que se hicieron en los nueve primeros meses de 1907, se muestran los siguientes artículos y su valor, junto con los respectivos aumentos ó bajas en comparación con el período correspondiente de 1906:

Artículos.	Nueve meses de 1907.	Comparación con 1906.
Animales vivos	$1,289,472	— $84,177
Substancias alimenticias	14,488,526	+ 1,427,250
Tabaco y sus aplicaciones	3,334,241	— 313,171
Vinos y licores	8,638,272	— 122,005
Tejidos de diferentes clases	36,774,332	— 7,292,130
Aceites, etc	5,708,485	+ 152,479
Productos químicos y farmacéuticos	5,758,459	+ 53,620
Pinturas y tintes	1,090,496	— 77,482
Maderas y sus artefactos	4,142,710	+ 99,639
Papel y sus artefactos	3,860,608	+ 460,903
Cuero y sus artefactos	1,519,115	— 259,532
Hierro, acero y sus artefactos	21,881,358	— 3,045,906
Otros metales y sus artefactos	5,095,933	— 972,505
Instrumentos de agricultura	10,403,024	— 1,394,407
Vehículos y sus accesorios	40,704,872	+16,270,779
Productos cerámicos	14,852,952	— 412,055
Materiales de construcción	15,784,492	+ 694,040
Artículos eléctricos y sus accesorios	2,487,013	+ 287,154
Otros artículos	5,020,858	+ 47,210

Los artículos de exportación y las comparaciones correspondientes en los dos períodos fueron como sigue:

Artículos.	Nueve meses de 1907.	Comparación con 1906.
Productos de la ganadería	$88,246,566	$1,464,958
Productos agrícolas	146,406,061	+19,524,731
Productos de los bosques	3,966,755	— 805,130
Productos de las minas	490,619	+ 302,712
Productos de la caza	609,565	— 92,765
Productos diversos	1,159,045	— 1,217,240

MATERIAL RODANTE DE FERROCARRILES EN 1907.

El Ministro Argentino de Obras Públicas ha preparado una relación que muestra el material rodante que hay en el servicio de varias compañías de ferrocarriles de la República al terminar el año de 1907, para demostrar los medios con que cuentan para hacer frente á las exigencias consiguientes al trasporte de las cosechas.

Los medios con que contaban las empresas y sus respectivos aumentos en comparación con el año de 1906 son los siguientes:

Ferrocarriles.	Locomotoras de trenes de carga.	Capacidad de los carros en toneladas.	Proporcion de aumento.
Gran Ferrocarril del Sur	544	218,200	18.82
Ferrocarril del Oeste	277	160,000	27.50
Ferrocarril de Rosario	259	145,000	17.85
Ferrocarril Central Argentino	205	111,000	28.19
Ferrocarril del Pacífico	135	140,000	22.80
Gran Ferrocarril del Oeste	168	63,800	65.50
Ferrocarril Andino	23	11,940	11.40
Ferrocarril de la Provincia de Santa Fé	112	50,000	5.12
Ferrocarril Central de Córdoba	95	33,000	24.00
Ferrocarril de Córdoba y Rosario	35	11,840	46.20
Ferrocarril Nacional Central del Norte	148	53,800	.....
Ferrocarril del Norte Argentino	38	19,250	.....

No se muestra ningún aumento en las líneas que son propiedad del Estado.

Los cobertizos para granos, etc., que hay en las estaciones pertenecientes á los ferrocarriles y á particulares, tienen una capacidad total de 795,455 metros cuadrados. Esto no incluye los cobertizos, almacenes de depósito y elevadores que hay en las estaciones terminales ó en los puertos que, considerados en conjunto, representan una capacidad de 2,266,421 toneladas.

ENTRADA LIBRE DE MAQUINARIA MINERA Y METALÚRGICA.

Una ley argentina de fecha 30 de septiembre de 1907, declara libre de derechos de aduana, durante un período de diez años, la entrada de maquinaria, herramientas y materiales necesarios para la instalación y operación de los establecimientos mineros y metalúrgicos que se construyan ó que ya existan en la República. Dicha ley también comprende la maquinaria, herramientas y materiales para la excavación de pozos.

Á fin de obtener la exención de que se trata, los interesados tienen que hacer una solicitud por escrito á la aduana por la cual se desee efectuar la importación. Los costos consiguientes á la comprobación de los materiales serán por cuenta del solicitante.

INGRESOS DE LA RENTA INTERNA EN LOS NUEVE PRIMEROS MESES DE 1907.

En los nueve primeros meses de 1907 los ingresos derivados de las contribuciones internas ascendieron á $31,493,006.17 en papel moneda

y $21,641 en oro, en comparación con $28,744,276.68 en papel y $19,634.16 en oro durante el período correspondiente del año anterior.

LA PRODUCCIÓN DE AZÚCAR EN TUCUMÁN, EN CINCO MESES DE 1907.

La estadística de la producción azucarera en Tucumán correspondiente á cinco meses, marzo, junio, julio, agosto y septiembre de 1907, acusa una disminución con respecto á la del mismo período de 1906. El producto durante los períodos que se comparan fué como se expresa á continuación:

	1906.	1907.
	Toneladas.	*Toneladas.*
Marzo	336	463
Junio	15,929	19,893
Julio	30,348	29,169
Agosto	27,187	26,534
Septiembre	16,928	12,232
Total	90,728	88,291

La diferencia en contra de 1907 es, pues, de 2,437 toneladas. Esta baja fué causada por las heladas, las cuales hicieron mucho daño en las plantaciones. Esta disminución, á su vez, ha motivado el alza de los precios del azúcar.

GRANEROS SIONALES EN EL PUERTO DE BUENOS AIRES.

Con el fin de evitar la congestión del tráfico, que siempre ocurre en el puerto de Buenos Aires cuando el embarque de cereales está en su apogeo, el Ministro de Agricultura de la República Argentina ha presentado un proyecto de ley sobre la construcción en el puerto de la capital de graneros provisionales con capacidad para 100,000 toneladas de cereales. Los vagones que lleguen al puerto y no puedan descargar directamente en los buques respectivos dentro de las veinticuatro horas que les concede la ley, lo harán en dichos graneros. La carga desde el depósito al buque se hara por elevación, con un sistema de cintas y canaletas.

Con la capacidad de 100,000 toneladas, y suponiendo un plazo máximo de almacenaje de quince á veinte días, podrán alojarse en dichos depósitos, durante los primeros siete meses de trabajo más activo alrededor de 1,000,000 toneladas de cereal.

ÁREA DE TERRENOS SEMBRADOS EN 1907.

La Oficina de Estadística del Departamento de Agricultura de la República Argentina publicó recientemente las cifras definitivas del área de terrenos sembrados en el país durante 1907. Varían un poco de los cálculos que se publicaron anteriormente, teniendo el área sembrada de trigo 27,000 hectáreas menos, la de lino 24,000 hectáreas menos, y la de avena 42,000 hectáreas más.

Estas cifras definitivas, en comparación con las de 1906, son como sigue:

	1907.	1906.
	Hectáreas.	*Hectáreas.*
Trigo	5,759,978	5,692,171
Lino	1,391,467	1,020,216
Avena	284,098	76,610

ACUÑACIÓN DE MONEDAS DE NÍQUEL.

El Poder Ejecutivo de la República se ha servido autorizar la acuñación de 2,553,781 pesos en monedas de níquel para completar un total de 12,000,000.

El Ministro Plenipotenciario de la República en Londres tiene la orden de adquirir 5,000,000 discos para monedas de 20 centavos, 11,022,000 para piezas de 10 centavos, y 9,093,787 para el tipo de 5 centavos.

BRASIL.

EL COMERCIO EXTRANJERO EN LOS NUEVE PRIMEROS MESES DE 1907.

Los datos estadísticos relativos al comercio extranjero del Brasil en los nueve meses transcurridos de enero á septiembre de 1907, muestran que el valor total de importaciones ascendió á 468,559:983$ ($147,000,000), en comparación con 337,984:983$ ($114,500,000) en los mismos meses de 1906, y el valor de las exportaciones ascendió á 669,286:556$ ($210,500,000), contra 498,691:572$ ($168,500,000) en el período correspondiente del año anterior, mostrándose así un aumento de más de $22,000,000 en el valor de las importaciones y de $42,000,000 en el de las exportaciones en el período citado de 1907, y mostrándose que el valor de las exportaciones de la República, comparado con el de las importaciones, de $53,000,000 en los nueve primeros meses de 1906, ascendió á $62,000,000 en los nueve primeros meses de 1907.

La mayor parte de este aumento en el valor de las exportaciones respecto del de las importaciones ocurrió en los siete primeros meses del año de 1907, puesto que en los meses de agosto y septiembre una merma en el valor de los dos productos de exportación, á saber, el café y la goma, produjo una baja en la lista de artículos de exportación en comparación con la de los mismos meses de 1906. Por otra parte, el valor de las importaciones en los do meses que se ha hecho referencia continuó subiendo á causa de la demanda que tuvieron la maquinaria y materiales que se necesitaron para las numerosas é importantes obras públicas que están en vías de construcción en la República.

INGRESOS DE ADUANA EN LOS NUEVE PRIMEROS MESES DE 1907.

En los nueve primeros meses comprendidos de enero á septiembre de 1907, los ingresos de aduana en las varias aduanas de la República del Brasil ascendieron á 218,555$000 ($72,123,150), en comparación con 175,177$000 ($57,808,410) en el período correspondiente del año anterior, ó sea un aumento de más de $14,000,000.

COLOMBIA.

IMPORTACIÓN LIBRE DE MAÍZ Y ARROZ.

En virtud de un decreto del Presidente de la República de Colombia, fechado el 5 de diciembre de 1907, la importación de maíz y arroz por los puertos del Atlántico queda libre de derechos hasta el 1° de mayo de 1908. Es medida ha sido adoptada con motivo de los daños causados por la langosta.

COSTA RICA.

RECEPCIÓN DEL MINISTRO ESPECIAL DE COSTA RICA EN LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS.

El Señor Don Luis Andersón, Enviado Extraordinario y Ministro Plenipotenciario de Costa Rica, en una misión especial ante el Gobierno de los Estados Unidos, fué recibido con tal carácter por el Presidente Roosevelt el día 12 de noviembre de 1907. Al presentar sus credenciales el Señor Andersón pronunció el siguiente discurso:

"Excelentísimo Señor Presidente: Por generosa mediación de Vuestra Excelencia y del Excelentísimo Señor Presidente de los Estados Unidos Mexicanos, se reunirá en breve en esta Capital el Congreso de Plenipotenciarios de las cinco Repúblicas de Centro América, que para bien de la civilización y la dicha de aquellos países, ha de poner fin á pasadas diferencias entre ellos y asegurarles para siempre las bendiciones de una paz sólida, bajo cuya á la protectora puedan marchar á la realización de los magníficos destinos que las virtudes de su hijos y sus riquezas naturales les aseguran.

"Costa Rica, que ama con amór entrañable á sus hermanas del Istmo y que vive con ellas en completa armonía, aprecia llena de gratitud tan noble y humanitaria excitativa, porque tiene fe en que ella será el camino seguro para que la paz de que disfruta y que es la llave de su dicha presente alcance á toda la familia controamericana.

"Honrado por mi Gobierno con el carácter de Delegado á la Conferenciá de Paz, el Señor Presidente Gonzalez Víquez ha querido aprovechar mi presencia en esta Capital, para confiarme la misión

especiál, tan grata como señaladamente honrosa, de ser mensajero de más cordial saludo del pueblo y del Gobierno de Costa Rica para esta noble nación y su ilustre mandatario.

"El desarrollo maravilloso con que los Estados Unidos de América asombran al mundo, su creciente prosperidad y el bienestar de este pueblo cuyos destinos pesan en los destinos de la raza humana, hijos son del culto á la libertad y á la justicia que los fundadores de la República encarnaron en el corazón de sus hombres. Este culto transportado de vuestras instituciones á las de nuestros países, constituye la piedra angular de la fraternidad americana á cuya sombra viven y desarrollan, se aman y se respetan las naciones todas del nuevo Continente. Por la libertad y la justicia deseamos que cada vez sean más y más estrechas las relaciones que unen á la pequeña y libre Costa Rica, con la poderosa Nación norteamericana.

Al poner en vuestras manos la carta que me acredita como Enviado Extraordinario y Ministro Plenipotenciario en misión especial cerca del Gobierno de Vuestra Excelencia nada es tan grato para mí como el significaros los sentimientos de afecto y gratitud de los costarricenses para el pueblo y el Gobierno de los Estados Unidos de América y los votos que hacen por vuestra ventura personal."

El Presidente Roosevelt contestó como sigue:

"Señor Ministro: Me es muy grato recibiros como Enviado Extraordinario y Ministro Plenipotenciario de Costa Rica en una Misión Especial á los Estados Unidos, sobre todo cuando dicha misión tiene por objeto hacer lo que esté á vuestro alcance para obtener una paz duradera y verdadera hermandad entre los pueblos de la América Central.

"Aprecio cumplidamente vuestro reconocimiento de la parte que este Gobierno, juntamente con el de México, se ha tomado para que se efectúe la conferencia que pronto se celebrará en esta ciudad, y correspondo cordialmente á los parabienes del pueblo y Gobierno de Costa Rica que el Presidente Víquez os ha suplicado que hagáis presentes al pueblo y Gobierno de los Estados Unidos.

"El mantenimiento de la paz y la prosperidad entre las naciones de la América Central, así como el fomento de relaciones amistosas y cortesía de vecindad entre ellas y este país, siempre han sido muy caras para el pueblo y Gobierno de los Estados Unidos; y si los trabajos de la Conferencia dan por resultado contribuir á que la realización de tan laudables fines sea más cierta, todos tendremos derecho á participar de la gloria de un hecho de tal trascendencia.

"Señor Ministro, conozco vuestra fama así como el celo y habilidad con que habéis servido á vuestro país, y estoy seguro de que habéis de desplegar esas mismas cualidades en la Conferencia para obtener los nobles fines que la han inspirado.

En conclusión, os ruego, Señor Ministro, que hagáis presente al Presidente Víquez mis fervientes votos por su bienestar personal."

CONTRATO PARA EL CULTIVO DE PLANTAS FIBROSAS.

El día 7 de diciembre de 1907 se celebró un contrato entre el Gobierno de la República de Costa Rica y los Señores MARCIAL PERALTA y H. E. BRYANT, por el cual éstos se obligan á formar una sociedad anónima con un capital de $100,000 oro, por lo menos, y que podrá aumentarse hasta $500,000 oro. El objeto de la sociedad es el cultivo y la fabricación de fibras de cualquier especie en el país, y estará, por consiguiente, en la obligación de sembrar por lo menos 500,000 de plantas. Un año después de que el contrato haya sido aprobado por el Poder Legislativo los concesionarios deberán establecer en el cantón del Paraíso una fábrica de cordelería, alpargatas, sombreros, telas, sacos, etc. La compañía deberá manufacturar en el país toda la fibra que ella ó los particulares produzcan, y venderá en el mismo los artículos que fabricare. El Gobierno garantiza á la sociedad un 6 por ciento anual de ganancia sobre el capital de $100,000, con tal que éstos se hayan invertido en la compra é instalación de máquinas y en la siembra de las fibras. Los concesionarios deberán hacer un depósito de $5,000 para garantizar el cumplimiento de las condiciones del contrato.

IMPORTACIÓN DE PETRÓLEO CRUDO.

El Gobierno de la República de Costa Rica, con fecha 5 de noviembre de 1907, celebró un contrato con la "*United Fruit Company*," por el cual ésta se obliga á importar petróleo crudo de Tejas en cantidad suficiente, durante el término del contrato, para satisfacer el consumo de ese artículo en el país. La empresa se obliga á vender el petróleo así importado con una utilidad no mayor de 10 por ciento sobre su precio de costo. La importación de petróleo crudo queda, durante los veinticinco años que durará el contrato, libre del pago de derechos de aduana.

CREACIÓN DE JUNTAS DE AGRICULTURA.

Con el fin de impulsar el desarrollo de la agricultura nacional, el Presidente de la República de Costa Rica, en decreto de fecha 2 de diciembre de 1907, ha dispuesto la creación de juntas de agricultura en todos los cantones, con excepción del de San José. Estas juntas estarán compuestas de siete miembros, serán dependientes de la Sociedad Nacional de Agricultura, y atenderán al fomento y desarrollo de la agricultura en sus respectivos cantones.

CUBA.

CENSO DE LA REPÚBLICA, 1907.

Según el censo levantado en 1907, el informe de cuyo resultado fué sometido en diciembre al Gobernador Provisional de Cuba por el Director General del Censo, la población de la República en el presente asciende á 2,028,282, que se distribuye entre las distintas provincias de la manera siguiente, dándose las cifras correspondientes al censo de 1899, por vía de comparación:

Provincias.	1899.	1907.
Pinar del Río	173,082	240,781
Habana	424,811	518,524
Matanzas	202,462	239,866
Santa Clara	356,537	457,897
Camagüey	88,237	117,432
Oriente	327,716	453,782
Total	1,572,845	2,028,282

LA INMIGRACIÓN DURANTE EL AÑO FISCAL DE 1906-7.

Según datos que acaba de publicar la Sección de Estadística del Departamento de Hacienda de la República de Cuba, el número de inmigrantes llegados á los puertos de aquella isla durante el año fiscal de 1906–7, asciende á 29,572, de los cuales 23,831 son varones y 5,741 hembras. El total general se distribuye del modo siguiente entre las distintas nacionalidades:

Españoles	22,178	Sudamericanos	143
Ingleses	2,044	Mexicanos	132
Norteamericanos	1,907	Escandinavos	100
Portorriqueños	707	Griegos	81
Otros antillanos	953	Austriacos	36
Sirios	294	Portugueses	26
Franceses	281	Indios orientales	26
Turcos	264	Holandeses	25
Italianos	215	Otras nacionalidades	86
Árabes	182		

Comparando el total general con el del año de 1905–6, se observa una disminución de 23,080 individuos en contra de 1906–7, pues el de aquél ascendió á 52,652 inmigrantes.

DISPOSICIONES ADUANERAS SOBRE LAS MERCANCÍAS PERDIDAS.

La "Gaceta Oficial" correspondiente al 19 de octubre de 1907 publica una circular en la cual se hace saber que los derechos de aduana se recaudarán únicamente sobre las mercancías que realmente sean importadas y que se descarguen en Cuba, y no sobre las mer-

cancías que se pierdan durante la navegación ó en los alijadores, aun cuando dichas mercancías aparezcan en el manifiesto ó conocimiento. Se revocan todas las circulares que se opongan á esta disposición.

Un decreto reciente del Gobernador Provisional de la República de Cuba destina la cantidad de $350,000 para el servicio sanitario de varios municipios y para la adopción de medidas preventivas contra la fiebre amarilla.

RENTAS ADUANERAS DE LA HABANA EN 1907.

Según cifras publicadas en "La Lucha" de la Habana del 2 de enero de 1908, las rentas aduaneras que se recaudaron en el puerto de la Habana durante el año de 1907 ascendieron á la cantidad de $20,005,048.12, en comparación con $18,511,296.07, suma percibida en el año de 1906.

CHILE.

RECEPCIÓN DEL MINISTRO EN LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS.

El Señor Don Anibal Cruz, Enviado Extraordinario y Ministro Plenipotenciario de Chile ante el Gobierno de los Estados Unidos, fué recibido con tal carácter por el Presidente Roosevelt el día 16 de noviembre de 1907. Al presentar sus credenciales, el Señor Cruz se expresó en los siguientes términos:

"Exmo. Señor Presidente: Tengo la honra de poner en manos de Vuestra Excelencia dos cartas autógrafas de Su Excelencia el Presidente de la República de Chile. Una de ellas tiene por objeto poner término á la misión que desempeñaba el honorable Señor Walker-Martínez, y la otra acreditarme en el carácter de Enviado Extraordinario y Ministro Plenipotenciario ante el Gobierno de Vuestra Excelencia.

"La misión que mi Gobierno me ha confiado obedece principalmente al propósito de estrechar las relaciones que felizmente existen entre los Estados Unidos y la República de Chile. Para realizar ese propósito, que constituye el más vivo anhelo del pueblo y Gobierno chilenos, abrigo la esperanza de que Vuestra Excelencia querrá dispensarme la benévola acojida que ha concedido á mis predecesores.

"Hago votos muy sinceros en nombre de mi Gobierno y en el mío propio por la felicidad personal de Vuestra Excelencia y sus colaboradores en el Gobierno y por la prosperidad y grandeza de los Estados Unidos de América."

El Presidente Roosevelt contestó como sigue:

"Señor Ministro: Me es grato daros la bienvenida como el nuevo Enviado Extraordinario y Ministro Plenipotenciario de la República de Chile ante este Gobierno, y recibir de vuestros manos las creden-

ciales que presentáis con el expresado carácter. También acepto la carta por virtud de la cual se me anuncia el retiro de vuestro estimado predecesor.

"La manifestación de vuestro propósito de ayudar á fortalecer las relaciones amistosas que en la actualidad existen entre los Estados Unidos de América y la República de Chile, me proporciona un placer especial, y os aseguro, Señor Ministro, que me alegraré de prestaros, por todos los medios á mi alcance, mi activa ayuda para mantener y perfeccionar dichas relaciones amistosas.

"Os doy las gracias por vuestras bondadosas frases acerca de mi persona, y os ruego que tengáis la bondad de hacerle presente á Su Excelencia el Presidente MONTT la expresión de mis vehementes deseos por la felicidad y prosperidad tanto de él como del pueblo chileno. Aprovecharé la primera oportunidad para acusarle recibo directamente á Su Excelencia el Presidente MONTT de la carta de retiro de vuestro predecesor.

"Espero que vuestra estancia en esta Capital os sea tan agradable como estoy seguro de que ha de ser satisfactoria para ambos Gobiernos."

ENCOMIENDAS POSTALES INTERNACIONALES, 1902-1906.

Según datos oficiales acabados de recibir de Chile, el desarrollo que ha tenido la internación de encomiendas postales durante los cinco años de 1902 á 1906 fué como sigue:

Año.	Valor de encomiendas internadas.	Impuesto percibido.
	Pesos.	*Pesos.*
1902	662,381	135,463
1903	839,742	118,902
1904	893,446	194,752
1905	877,869	300,421
1906	1,112,965	349,803

RENTAS ADUANERAS EN LOS PRIMEROS OCHO Y NUEVE MESES DE 1907.

Las aduanas de la República de Chile recaudaron durante los ocho primeros meses de 1907 una renta total de 70,117,153.75 pesos, en comparación con la cantidad de 61,839,696.89 pesos percibidos en el mismo período de 1906, siendo el aumento, por lo tanto, de 8,277,-456.86 pesos. La recaudación del mes de agosto de 1907 ascendió á 9,082,241.81 pesos, en comparación con 6,782,166.82 pesos en el mismo mes del año 1906.

Durante los nueve primeros meses de 1907 la renta recaudada fué de 78,371,977.96 pesos, contra la de 68,963,529.72 pesos correspondiente al mismo período de 1906, ó sea un aumento de 9,408,448.24 pesos. En el mes de septiembre de 1907 se recaudó una renta de 8,254,824.21 pesos, en comparación con la suma de 7,123,832.83 pesos percibida en el mismo mes de 1906.

PRIMA POR LA EXPORTACIÓN DEL LINO.

El Presidente de la República de Chile, con fecha 25 de octubre de 1907, presentó al Congreso Nacional un proyecto de ley tendente á la protección de la industria del lino y cuya parte dispositiva es como sigue:

"ARTÍCULO ÚNICO. Se autoriza al Presidente de la República para pagar una prima por quintal métrico de lino producido y elaborado en el país que se exporte por las aduanas de Talcahuano, Valdivia, Puerto Montt y Ancud.

"Esta prima regirá por el término de doce años y será, durante los seis primeros años, de 10 pesos de 18 peniques por quintal métrico de lino tascado, y de 16 pesos de 18 peniques por quintal métrico de lino espadillado, y durante los seis años restantes de 6 y de 8 pesos de 18 peniques, respectivamente, por quintal de lino tascado y espadillado.

"El monto total de las primas no podrá exceder de la suma de 100,000 pesos al año en los cuatro primeros años de la vigencia de esta ley, de 150,000 pesos por año en los cuatro siguientes, y de 200,000 pesos por año en los restantes.

"Los que reclamen el beneficio de esta ley deberán someterse á las condiciones que fije el Presidente de la República."

COLOCACIÓN DEL EMPRÉSTICO DE £1,100,000.

El 16 de septiembre de 1907, el Gobierno de Chile, representado por su Ministro Plenipotenciario en Londres, celebró un contrato con los Señores N. M. ROTSCHILD AND SONS para la colocación del empréstito de £1,100,000, que serán emitidos en vales del tesoro pagaderos en la casa bancaria de dichos señores, en Londres, el 24 de marzo de 1909.

ECUADOR.

EXPOSICIÓN NACIONAL DE 1909.

Con fecha 31 de octubre de 1907, el Ejecutivo de la República del Ecuador dictó el decreto cuyo texto se publica á continuación, relativo á la celebración de una exposición nacional en Quito en el año 1909:

"ELOY ALFARO, Presidente Constitucional de la República, considerando que el Congreso de 1902 dispuso en su decreto de 10 de octubre, que se celebrará una exposición nacional, en la capital de la República, el 10 de agosto del año venidero de 1909, centenario primero del primer grito de independencia de la América, dado en Quito el 10 de agosto de 1809, y que nada más digno y provechoso que conmemorar tan magno y glorioso acontecimiento, con el concurso de

todas las fuerzas de actividad de los pueblos de la República, en la labor civilizadora de su propio progreso y engrandecimiento, decreta:

"Art. 1°. Prepárese, desde ahora, por el Supremo Gobierno, las autoridades todas y los pueblos de la República, una exposición nacional que se instalará en Quito y se abrirá el día 10 de agosto de 1909.

"Art. 2°. El Gobierno del Ecuador construirá por su cuenta, y en el lugar conveniente del ejido de la ciudad de Quito, el gran edificio ó pabellón nacional de la exposición, y los edificios secundarios, galerías establas, pesebres, etc., destinados á la exhibición de animales.

"Art. 3°. El Gobierno costeará el trasporte, á la capital de la República desde la capital de cada Provincia, de los objetos de exhibición.

"Art. 4°. El concejo municipal de la ciudad de Quito, por sí, y con la cooperación efectiva y eficaz del vecindario, propenderá, desde ahora, y en la medida de lo posible, al embellecimiento, aseo, y saneamiento de esta capital, y emprenderá, desde ahora también, en la plantación de una gran alameda que, partiendo de la calle próxima respectiva, siga por una y otro lado del gran Parque Nacional, y converja hacia la carretera del norte, á las orillas del cual camino público continará la dicha alameda hasta Cotocollao. Esta alameda será plantada con árboles adultos de una especie conveniente.

"Art. 5°. Para la dirección de los trabajos y labores preparatorios, organización y reglamentación general y especial de la exposicion nacional, recepción y clasificación de objetos, etc., se constituye un comité central en la capital de la República, compuesto de treinta ciudadanos notables, residentes en Quito, que tendrán la representación de todas las provincias de la República, dos por cada una de éstas.

"Los miembros principales de este comité y los sustitutos ó suplentes serán nombrados por el Gobierno, quien elegirá de entre los mismos de la junta directiva.

"El comité central funcionará siempre bajo la presidencia y dependencia inmediatas del Ministro de lo Interior y Obras Públicas, y con sujeción á los reglamentos oficiales de la materia que expida el Ministro del Ramo.

"El comité central nombrará en junta general sus comisiones especiales de organización, trabajo, etc.

"Art. 6°. Cada provincia constituirá su comité local delegado de y subordinado al comité central. Son miembros natos de los comités provinciales: El Gobernador de la provincia respectiva; el presidente y dos miembros delegados del concejo municipal del cantón cabecera de la provincia, un delegado por cada uno de los otros concejos cantonales, y dos miembros delegados por cada cámara de las de agricultura, comercio é industria si las hubiere. Cada comité provincial, así constituído con sus miembros natos, nombrará, en junta preparatoria, el número de las personas notables de la provincia

ó del lugar que sean necesarias para completar 15 miembros, de que debe constar. Los comités provinciales harán su reglamento interior y de trabajo y nombrarán sus juntas directivas y sus comisiones especiales.

"ART. 8°. Los concejos municipales de cada Provincia votarán, desde ahora, las sumas de dinero con las cuales tienen de contribuir á los gastos de colección, clasificación, empaque, etc., de los objetos, productos, obras, etc., que haya de exhibir la provincia respectiva, y del costo de su respectivo pabellón que se construirá en el área de terreno del campo de la exposición, que designe el Gobierno.

"ART. 9°. Son objeto de la exposición nacional: Las plantas, frutos, maderas, animales, minerales y demás productos naturales del suelo y de las aguas nacionales; los obtenidos ó mejorados por el cultivo ú otro trabajo de la inteligencia y la mano del hombre; los objetos ó productos del comercio, de la industria, de las artes generales y las bellas artes nacionales, y, en fin, todo objeto ú obra material fruto del trabajo de los ciudadanos en el territorio de la República.

"ART. 10. Convócase, desde ahora, á fin de que preparen oportunamente sus labores, para que concurran á ese gran certamen nacional, á los agricultores, comerciantes é industriales, á los ciudadanos que profesen ó cultiven ciencias especulativas ó de aplicación, jurisconsultos, estadistas, abogados, médicos, farmacéuticos, higienistas, bactereologistas, naturalistas, químicos, físicos, astrónomos, cosmógrafos, metereologistas, geógrafos, marinos, ingenieros, agrimensores, mecánicos, etc.; á los que profesen ó cultiven las bellas artes, ó ejerzan ó enseñen artes y oficios liberales, y á todo aquél que represente una ó más fuerzas efectivas del trabajo nacional, en todas las manifestaciones útiles de la actividad humana.

"ART. 11. Se convoca especialmente á que concurran á la exposición nacional con sus luces y sus obras:

"(*a*) Á los directores de instrucción pública; á los pedagogos profesiónales normalistas y de enseñanza primaria, y á los maestros y maestras de las escuelas públicas que á la dicha enseñanza se dediquen; y

"(*b*) Á los agricultores, en todas y en cada una de las especialidades del ramo, porque siendo la agricultura fuente positiva, fecunda é inagotable de la riqueza, prosperidad é independencia del hombre y de los pueblos, y origen primero del comercio y de la industria, y esencialmente agrícola la nación ecuatoriana, es un deber de los poderas públicas y del pueblo mismo proteger, fomentar y darla el mayor desarrollo posible á la agrícultura nacional. Por consiguiente, merecerán preferente atención de parte del Gobierno y de las comisines oficiales y tribunales de la exposición nacional, el estudio de las obras, frutos, productos, informes, métodos y sistemas que, directa ó indirectamente, se relacionen con la agricultura en ese gran certamen del trabajo nacional.

"ART. 12. Son también objeto de exhibición y concurso de la exposición nacional las obras literarias preceptivas, de información, descriptivas, técnicas ó de estadística, etc., que se refieran al adelanto intelectual de nuestro pueblos y al progreso é ilustración del trabajo, y que se sujeten á los siguientes temas:

"(*a*) Métodos modernos de enseñanza primaria: Textos; lecciones de cosas; trabajos manuales; cultura física; educación individual y colectiva; higiene escolar; escuelas primarias superores; escuelas normales.

(*b*) "Estudio de los bosques y selvas nacionales: Desmontes; cultivo y conservación del árbol; maderas de tinte, de ebanistería, de construcción naval, urbana y rural; estudio de los terrenos áridos, laborables y de pansembrar; zonas agrícolas de la República, su clima y meteorología especiales; canalización, desagüe y desecación de terrenos agrícolas; arados, irrigación natural y artificial, podas, rosas y abonos; sombra y ventilación de terrenos y plantíos; métodos de siembra y cultivo é ingertos; florescencia, fructificación y cosecha; estudio especial del cultivo del cacao, caucho, café, quinas, etc.; beneficio del café para la exportación en pergamino; métodos para despulpar, fermentación, lavado, desecación al sol; aplicación del cultivo á la menor plantación, con mayor y más rico fruto de estas especies vegetales; aclimatación y cultivo de nuevas especies vegetales útiles en los terrenos nacionales; consumo interior, exportación y métodos de exportación de productos agrícolas; cultivo de la caña de azúcar; grado de la caña de azúcar en las diversas zonas agrícolas de la República; cultivo de la remolacha; fabricación de azúcar de caña y de remolacha; cultivo de uva, cepas y vides, semillas de uva; vinificación; fabricación y conservación de vinos tintos; fabricación de alcoholes de caña y de uva; alcohometría de vinos y alcoholes; desinfección y rectificación de alcoholes; gramos, rizomas, tubercules, legumbres, hortalizas, etc., y demás vegetales alimenticios; cultivo sistemático de trigo, cebada, avena y lúpulo; fabricación de harinas y polvos de trigo, cebada, lentejas y avena; fabricación de cerveza; cultivo sistemático de la manzana en sus mejores especies; fabricación de cidra; acacias útiles; algarrobo, tamarindo, caña-fístola, etc.; plantas textiles y de fibra, su cultivo, beneficio, laboreo y manafactura; cultivo sistemático del banano (plátano); especies finas de consumo y de exportación; métodos de exportación de este fruto y lugares hacia donde puede dirigirse aquélla; cultivo sistemático del algodón; semillas y especies finas de esta planta; terrenos á propósito para su cultivo en el litoral y en el interior de la República; producción nacional del algodón, su consumo interior y sus aplicaciones industriales; tejidos de algodón nacionales; consumo interior de estos tejidos; fabricación de aceite de algodón y sus aplicaciones industriales, cultivo sistemático del cocotero, las mejores especies enanas

de esta palmera; consumo y exportación del coco; fabricación de aceite de coco y sus aplicaciones industriales; cultivo sistemático del tabaco; semillas de especies finas y su aclimatación en los terrenos nacionales; título de nicotina del tabaco nacional; cosechas, beneficio y manufactura del tabaco nacional; su producción, consumo y exportación en rama y manufacturado, recolección metódica y sistemática de la tagua, sus mejores especies; exportación y pruebas de manufactura nacional de botones y otros objetos comerciales de tagua; paja toquilla; especies útiles; cultivo sistemático, cosecha, beneficio y conservación de esta paja; exportación; contrabando; manufactura, exportación de sombreros de paja toquilla; los sombreros de paja toquilla de Manabí, del cantón de Santa Elena y de Azogues en los mercados extranjeros; paja mocora, su cultivo y cosecha; fabricación de hamacas de paja mocora natural ó torcida; exportación de hamacas y de la materia prima; cultivo sistemático de la ceiba de lana; cosecha, consumo interior y exportación, industria de esta lana vegetal; pastos y forrajes; gramíneas, tréboles, henos, borragináceas, alfalfas, etc.; plantaciones y cultivo sistemático del eucalipto en la costa de la República; especies á propósito para dicho cultivo; especies patrones de eucalipto para ingertos; aplicaciones comerciales é industriales de la madera de eucalipto; cultivo sistemático, mejoramiento é ingertos de frutas y flores; exportación de frutas; orquídeas y plantas de follaje para parques y jardines; exportación de plantas; conservación de frutas, cristalizadas y en jugo; dehesas en general; jardines botánicos; plantas medicinales; cultivo sistemático de la vainilla aromática, de la canela de Ceilán y de la kola de África; patología vegetal y su aplicación á la agricultura nacional.

"(*c*) Aclimatación en los lugares convenientes del territorio de la República, del gusano de seda; condiciones del clima, en cuanto á temperatura, humedad y limpieza de la atmósfera, y salubridad del suelo para la aclimatación y cultivo del gusano de seda; cultivo de la morera, del palma-cristi, del melocotoners, del laurel rosa y de otras plantas especiales para la cría y cultivo del gusano de seda; especies principales de este gusano, las de China, Japón, India, Madagascar, Francia, Italia, España, Argel, Hungría, Estados Unidos de América, Brasil y Uruguay; enfermedades del gusano de seda en las diversas metamorfosis de este animal; los estudios de Pasteur y otros á este respecto; higiene de la cría y cultivo del gusano de seda; estudio del capullo, acerca de su mayor desarrollo y conservación; cosecha, beneficio, etc., y aplicación industrial de la seda; seda artificial.

"(*d*) Cría de ganado vacuno y cabrío: Selección de razas y especies superiores; cruzamiento y mejoramiento individual y colectivo de estos animales; cultivo del color; cría de recentales, terneros y becerros; ceba y lechería, razas y especies apropiadas para una y otra;

métodos racionales para ordeñar y sacrificar; tuberculosis bovina; establos, corrales, pastos, forrages y abrevaderos; razas superiores de bueyes de trabajo; aplicaciones industriales y beneficio y preparación de cueros y astas; tenerías; suelas, baquetas y cueros curtidos para uso industrial; zapatería y talabartería; preparación de pieles.

"(*e*) Cría de ganado lanar: Las mejores razas productoras de lana de estos animales; el carnero merino; cría especial de esta especie lanar; razas superiores de carneros para ceba y lana; terrenos á propósito en el litoral y en el interior de la República para la cría sistemática de estos animales, su alimentación especial, pastos y abrevaderos; cría sistemática y aclimatación en el territorio de la República del ganado lanar indígena de Sud América, llamas, vicuñas, guanacos, etc.; aplicaciones industriales de la lana animal; tejidos y otras manufacturas de lana nacionales, producción y consumo de la lana nacional; fabricación de lanolina.

"(*f*) Cría de ganado caballar: Razas superiores, nacionales y extranjeras; cruzamiento y mehoramiento individual y colectivo de estos animales; las mejores especies de caballos para tiro, trabajos agrícolas é industriales y montura; cría racional del potro, y métodos racionales de selección, quebrantamiento y educación; pastos, forrajes, dehesas y abrevaderos; asnos, razas superiores; cruzamiento y especies híbridas; mulos nacionales y extranjeros.

"(*g*) Cría de cerdos: Razas superiores nacionales y extranjeras; selección y cruzamiento; ceba, dehesas y abrevaderos; alimentación especial; fabricación sistemática de la manteca de cerdo; patrón en oleina, etc., de la manteca de cerdo legítima; falsificaciones y adulteraciones; cisticercos y triquinas.

"(*h*) Cultivo de la abeja: La abeja silvestre; colmenas y placeres; mieles y ceras de abeja; métodos especiales para cultivar la abeja en la costa y preservarla de los insectos dañinos.

"(*i*) Cría sistemática de aves domésticas: Razas y especies superiores; cruzamiento; alimentación; incubación artificial.

"(*j*) Cría sistemática de perros: Razas superiores útiles en la agricultura y la caza.

"(*k*) Cría sistemática del gato: Razas superiores útiles; extirpación de ratas y serpientes; veterinaria general; jardines zoológicos.

"(*l*) La caza de aves: Conservación de las garzas blancas y otras aves de plumas ricas; exportación de plumas.

"(*m*) La pesca en los ríos, lagos y mares nacionales: Métodos racionales de pesca en lagos, ríos y mares; especies de peces, maricos, crustáceos y moluscos, en las aguas nacionales. ¿Qué especies nuevas pueden aclimatarse en las aguas nacionales? La pesca del bacalao, del lobo marino y del galápago en el Archipiélago de Colón; conservación de estas especies y de la tortuga de carey, en nuestras costas; conservación y fomento de los bancos y criaderos de ostras

nacionales. ¿Puede aclimatarse el salmón en la costa ecuatoriana por donde pasa la corriente polar?

"(*n*) Pesquería de perlas en los mares nacionales.

"(*ñ*) Planos y mapas de las salinas nacionales: Análisis químico, cualitativo y cuantitativo de la sal marina nacional; su título en cloruro de sodio puro; métodos modernos de depuración, cristalización y refinería, y formas apropiadas para el expendio y exportación de la sal marina nacional.

"(*o*) Minería nacional: Métodos de exploración y de explotación; oro, plata, cobre, estaño, mercurio vivo, cinabrio, hierro, etc., hullas, esquistos y petróleos.

"(*p*) Petrografía nacional: Piedras preciosas; mármoles y alabastros; granitos de construcción y de estatuaria; lavas volcánicas apropiadas para construcción y otros usos industriales; piedras areniscas y piedrapómez.

"(*q*) Fuentes de fuerza motriz para la locomoción y el trabajo.

"(*r*) Conservación de las vías fluviales, ríos, esteros, etc.

"(*s*) Ferrocarriles nacionales: Carreteras y caminos vecinales; rutas nuevas interprovinciales, entre en interior y la costa y entre en centro y el oriente de la República; vías de comunicación internacionales; telégrafos terrestres y marítimos; teléfonos y telegrafía inalambrica; tranvías y ferrocarriles eléctricos.

"(*t*) Industrias nuevas: Saneamiento y provisión de agua potable; aguas artesianas y aguas corrientes.

"ART. 13. Los trabajos literarios sobre agricultura, comercio, industria, ciencias, artes, etc., merecerán la misma atención que los productos, frutos, objetos, etc., exhibidos, y tendrán premios y recompensas, según su mérito, y aún serán adoptados por el Gobierno para nuestra legislación interna en cuanto fuesen útiles para ello.

"ART. 14. Las naciones amigas que quisieran concurrir á la Exposición Nacional del 10 de agosto de 1909, serán gratamente aceptadas por el Gobierno y pueblo ecuatorianos en ese certamen, y ya sea que construyan ó no edificios propios en el campo de la Exposición, las obras, objetos, frutos, artefactos, etc., que enviaren serán convenientemente exhibidos.

"ART. 15. Convócase, desde ahora, á un Concurso Literario Internacional Panamericano, en cualquiera de las lenguas nacionales del continente, y en prosa, para la Exposición Nacional del 10 de agosto de 1909, cuyo tema será: 'La América independiente para la humanidad libre. Estudio general histórico, geográfico, topográfico, natural, político, étnico, comercial, agrícola, industrial, de navegación y vías de comunicación internas, del continente americano, en relación con el progreso y civilización modernos y con el movimiento inmigratorio á este continente de las razas humanas superiores.'

"El comité de calificación del concurso internacional será nombrado y presidido por el Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores.

MUELLE DEL CALLAO, PERÚ, EN DONDE LA ESCUADRA DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS HARA ESCALA DESPUÉS DE PUNTA ARENAS.

Water front of Callao, Peru, where the United States fleet will make the next stop after leaving Punta Arenas.

"ART. 16. Los trabajos literarios destinados á este concurso serán enviados al secretario del 'Comité del Concurso Internacional Panamericano,' en la ciudad de Quito, Ecuador, Sud América, y en tiempo oportuno para que lleguen á su destino antes del 31 de mayo de 1909, día en el cual se cerrará el dicho concurso.

"ART. 17. Los nombres de los autores de las composiciones serán enviados bajo sobre aparte, en cuyo sobre escrito se lea el pseudónimo, la leyenda ó contraseña que vaya al pie de la composición respectiva, como es de regla y uso.

"ART. 18. La proclamación de los premios ó recompensas del 'Concurso Literario Internacional,' tendrá lugar, en acto solemne, el día de la inauguración de la exposición nacional del 10 de agosto de 1909.

"ART. 19. El Gobierno de Ecuador votará la suma de 10,000 sucres para la adjudicación de premios ó recompensas pecuniarias para las composiciones de mayor mérito del concurso en el orden siguiente: Cinco mil sucres para le mejor; 3,000 sucres para la que le siga en mérito, y 2,000 sucres para la inmediatamente inferior. El Gobierno del Ecuador hará imprimir por su cuenta, en la Imprenta Nacional, una edición especial de cada una de las composiciones premiadas.

"ART. 20. El Gobierno del Ecuador expedirá con oportunidad los reglamentos necesarios para el mejor éxito de la exposición, y especialmente el de premios, recompensas, menciones honrosas, diplomas, etc., destinados á los objetos, frutos, obras materiales y literarias, etc., materia de la exposición nacional del 10 de agosto de 1909.

"ART. 21. Los Señores Ministros Secretarios de Estado quedan encargados de la ejecución del presente decreto.

ESTADOS UNIDOS.

COMERCIO CON LA AMÉRICA LATINA.

IMPORTACIONES Y EXPORTACIONES.

En la página 101 aparece la última relación en detalle del comercio entre los Estados Unidos y la América Latina, tomada de la compilación hecha por la Oficina de Estadística del Departamento de Comercio y Trabajo de los Estados Unidos. Estos datos se refieren al valor del comercio arriba mencionado. La estadística coresponde al mes de noviembre de 1907, comparada con la del mes correspondiente del año anterior, y también comprende los datos referentes á los once meses que terminaron en noviembre de 1907, comparados con igual período de 1906. Debe explicarse que las estadísticas de las importaciones y exportaciones de las diversas aduanas referentes á un mes cualquiera no se reciben en el Departamento de Comercio y Trabajo hasta el 20 del mes siguiente, necesitándose algún tiempo para su compilación é impresión; de suerte que los datos estadísticos correspondientes al mes de noviembre, por ejemplo, no se publican hasta enero.

LAS EXPORTACIONES DE ARTÍCULOS DE GOMA.

Las cifras que muestran el valor de las exportaciones de artículos de goma de los Estados Unidos arrojan un total de $6,214,910 en el año económico que terminó el 30 de junio de 1907, en comparación con $5,692,385 en los doce meses anteriores.

La distribución de dichas exportaciones fué como sigue: Á Europa se enviaron artículos por valor de $2,956,184; á la América del Norte, $2,070,255; á la América del Sur, $251,832; Ásia, $359,418; Oceanía, $435,478, y África, $141,743.

Excepción hecha del Canadá, que le compró á los Estados Unidos artículos de goma cuyo valor ascendió á $1,046,659, México fué el primer país importador de esta clase de mercancías en América, por cuanto el valor total de sus compras ascendió á $556,801. Las cifras que se han anunciado acerca del Reino Unido son las únicas que exceden á las dos ya citadas, y ascienden á $1,644,516.

GUATEMALA.

CONDICIONES ECONÓMICAS.

El Señor Víctor Aguilar Peláez, Cónsul de la República de Guatemala en Liverpool y Manchester, ha publicado un interesante folleto que contiene informes relativos á los recursos naturales y al actual estado económico de dicha República.

Las importaciones, cuyo valor en 1906 ascendió á $7,220,759 en oro, representaban casi toda clase de artículos de fábrica extranjera, tales como maquinaria, géneros de lana, de algodón, seda y lino, sombreros de todas clases, comestibles, vinos y licores, substancias alimenticias en conserva, artículos de porcelana, loza de barro, de vidrio, artículos de ferretería, mercería, pianos, carruajes, artículos de billares, instrumentos músicos, cuadros, barnices, medicinas, perfumería, joyería, piedras preciosas, artículos de fantasía, etc.

Los siguientes países en el orden de su importancia suministraron los precitados artículos: Estados Unidos, Alemania, Inglaterra, Francia, Italia, España, Bélgica, Suiza, Austria, Holanda, Japón, China, México, Perú, Chile y las Repúblicas de Centro América. Las exportaciones, cuyo valor en 1906 se calculó en $7,136,271 en oro, consistieron mayormente de café, azúcar, bananos, maderas, cueros, goma, plantas medicinales, frutas, etc. De café, que es el artículo principal de exportación, se embarcaron como 50,000 toneladas, y dicho producto fué clasificado como "Superior" en los mercados del mundo. Entre los países á los cuales se exportaron los precitados artículos, pueden mencionarse á los Estados Unidos, Alemania, Inglaterra, Francia, Italia, Austria-Hungría, España, Bélgica, Chile y otros.

El comercio extranjero se está desarrollando, y se espera que cuando se inaugure el Ferrocarril Interoceánico, que correrá desde

San José en el Pacífico hasta Puerto Barrios en el Atlántico, es decir, una distancia de 269 millas, se ha de facilitar considerablemente el transporte de los productos nativos á la costa.

En la actualidad los ferrocarriles que prestan servicios al público son los siguientes: el Central, el del Oeste, el de Ocos, el de Verapaz y el de Guatemala, y dícese que en este mes de diciembre de 1907 se efectuará la inauguración del Ferrocarril del Norte.

Los productos de Guatemala son variadísimos y abundantes en sumo grado. En el reino vegetal produce toda clase de plantas, flores y frutas características de la zona tórrida y de la templada. Hay en dicho país ricas minas de oro, plata, cobre, hierro, plomo, cinc, antimonio, carbón de piedra, mármol, azufre, mica, etc.

Sin embargo, la agricultura constituye la fuente principal de riqueza de dicha República, y á su explotación se consagra la mayor parte del capital que allí se invierte. Gracias á la extraordinaria feracidad del suelo, no es necesario allí el abono ni el riego, porque abunda la humedad hasta en la estación denominada de sequía.

En algunas de las regiones de la costa pueden hacerse dos ó tres cosechas anuales de los productos característicos de dichas regiones. Existen grandes cafetales, ingenios de azúcar, plantaciones de cacao, bananos, cereales, etc., al paso que en los Departamentos del norte hay varias compañías nacionales y extranjeras que se ocupan en la explotación de los productos de los bosques, que comprenden una gran variedad de maderas preciosas, y mayormente de caoba y cedro. También se están estableciendo plantaciones de goma que han dado resultados satisfactorios.

En la República se fabrican varios artículos de excelente calidad. Algunos géneros de lana y algodón, los muebles y el calzado son tan excelentes como los importados. Entre otros productos del país pueden mencionarse los sombreros, sillas de montar, cordelería en general, tejidos de bejuco, artículos de barro, obras de escultura, instrumentos de música, jabón, velas, puros, cigarrillos, queso, mantequilla, cerveza, aguas minerales, hielo, aguardiente, etc. Los artesanos naturales del país muestran tener gran inteligencia para aprender nuevas artes, y la materia prima es muy variada y excelente.

La República tiene un área de 125,000 kilómetros cuadrados, cuenta con 2,000,000 de habitantes y la densidad de población se calcula en 16 habitantes por kilómetro cuadrado.

Guatemala es un país montañoso, pero con muy buena aguada, y el clima varía según la elevación sobre el nivel del mar. En la costa se siente mucho el calor, en las planicies centrales el clima es templado y agradable, en tanto que en los puntos elevados el clima es frío. Las estaciones denominadas lluviosa y de sequía se caracterizan por el hecho de que durante la primera llueve diariamente, al paso que durante la segunda llueve de tiempo en tiempo.

Las regiones más populosas son las del sur y del oeste, y la ciudad de Guatemala, capital de la República, tiene 100,000 habitantes. Dicha capital se comunica por ferrocarril con los puertos de San José y Puerto Barrios del Pacífico y del Atlántico, respectivamente, quedando el primero á una distancia de 74.5 millas, que se viajan en cinco horas, y el segundo á una distancia de 194.5 millas, que se andan en doce horas.

El viaje de Guatemala á los Estados Unidos, embarcando en los puertos del Atlántico, se hace en cuatro días, y á Europa en quince. La costa del Pacífico de la República tiene una longitud de 250 kilómetros, y la del Atlántico 161 kilómetros. San José, Champerico y Ocos son puertos del Pacífico, en tanto que Puerto Barrios, Santo Tomás y Livingston lo son del Atlántico. Panzós en el río Polochic y Gualan en el río Motagua, son puertos de río, al paso que Isabel en el lago del mismo nombre también es lugar de importancia.

LA INAUGURACIÓN DEL FERROCARRIL DEL NORTE.

La inauguración del Ferrocarril del Norte de Guatemala que corre de Puerto Barrios en la costa del Atlántico hasta San José en la del Pacífico, se llevó á cabo formalmente el 19 de enero de 1907, fecha en que el primer tren que corrió por dicha línea entró en la ciudad de Guatemala.

La terminación de esta importante obra, comenzada en 1892, hace época no sólo en el desarrollo de Guatemala, sino también en los países adyacentes de la América Central, en tanto que el puerto de Nueva Orleans en los Estados Unidos estará en íntima comunicación con el comercio de la costa occidental de Nicaragua y el Salvador, ahorrándose así ocho días de navegación por la vía de Colón, en comparación con el tiempo que antes se necesitaba para hacer dicho viaje.

Durante muchos años la producción de café de Guatemala la transportaba el Ferrocarril Central de Guatemala, que corría desde la ciudad de Guatemala hasta San José de Guatemala, que es el puerto de entrada por el lado del Pacífico, y desde allí se transportaba á los buques de la línea del Pacífico. Estos embarques iban á San Francisco para ser distribuídos, ó á Panamá y á través del Istmo, con destino principalmente á Inglaterra y Alemania.

La "United Fruit Company" también ha inaugurado un nuevo servicio quincenal de vapores entre Nueva York y Puerto Barrios, como consecuencia de la inauguración de la línea de un océano al otro, necesitándose sólo de ocho á nueve días para hacer el viaje, y además ha establecido una conexión de telégrafo sin hilos en Puerto Limón, que es el punto central de distribución para las estaciones de la América Central. De una costa á la otra, la línea tiene una longitud total de 270 millas, y su terminación se ha demorado tanto

tiempo debido á las grandes dificultades que fué necesario vencer en la construcción de las 60 últimas millas de las 195 que hay entre la ciudad de Guatemala y la costa del Atlántico. Gracias à la gran habilidad que han desplegado los ingenieros, han podido vencerse las dificultades topográficas y construírse túneles y puentes que establecen conexiones entre tramos relativamente cortos de una vía recta. Hanse construído un total de 70 puentes, de los cuales los dos más importantes se hallan á una corta distancia de la ciudad de Guatemala, y uno de ellos atraviesa la barranca de Las Vacas, que tiene 244 pies de profundidad.

El Presidente de la compañía, bajo cuyos auspicios se terminó dicha línea, es Sir WILLIAM VAN HORNE, auxiliado por el Señor MINOR C. KEITH, y, además, el entusiástico apoyo que el Presidente CABRERA le ha prestado ha contríbuido por todos conceptos á la feliz terminación de dicha empresa.

El Ferrocarril del Norte de Guatemala viene á constituír el tercer ferrocarril interoceánico que atraviesa los países de la América Latina, y aunque no se espera que el tráfica se desvíe de los ferrocarriles de Tehuantepec ó Panamá, se cree que la influencia que esta nueva línea ha de ejercer en el comercio interior de la América Central será enorme.

HONDURAS.

AUMENTO DEL DERECHO DE EXPORTACIÓN SOBRE EL BANANO.

MIGUEL R. DÁVILA, Presidente Provisional de la República de Honduras, con fecha 14 de septiembre de 1907, dictó un decreto aumentando el derecho de exportación sobre bananos, cuya parte dispositiva es como sigue:

ARTÍCULO 1°. Se eleva á 3 centavos el impuesto de 2 centavos por cada racimo de bananos que se exporte, establecido por el artículo 1° del decreto No. 30 de 14 de septiembre de 1893.

ART. 2°. Los fondos que actualmente tengan los tesoreros de las municipalidades, procedentes de dicho impuesto, los depositarán en la caja de la aduana respectiva.

ART. 3°. Los administradores de aduana percibirán en lo sucesivo la totalidad del impuesto, apriéndole cuenta especial, cuyo saldo se destinará en la cantidad necesaria á los gastos locales de instrucción primaria, haciendo los pagos conforme á los presupuestos y nóminas presentados por las municipalidades con la aprobación de los gobernadores; y el resto del producto del impuesto se acumulará para la construcción de los referidos muelles.

ART. 4°. La presente ley empezará á regir el 1° de noviembre próximo, y se faculta al Ministerio de Hacienda para que dicte las disposiciones necesarias á su cumplimiento; quedando derogado de esa fecha el citado decreto No. 30 de 14 de septiembre de 1893.

MÉXICO.

COMERCIO EXTERIOR DURANTE EL PRIMER TRIMESTRE DE 1907-8.

La Sección de Estadística del Departamento de Hacienda y Crédito Público de los Estados Unidos Mexicanos acaba de publicar los datos relativos al comercio exterior de la República durante los tres meses de julio á septiembre de 1907, ó sea el primer trimestre del ejercicio fiscal de 1907–8, comparados con los correspondientes á igual período de 1906–7. Las importaciones tuvieron un valor total de 60,907,390.43 pesos, suma que, comparada con la de 50,091,967.58 pesos en que estuvieron avaluadas las del mismo período del ejercicio anterior, demuestra un aumento de 10,815,422.85 pesos en favor del corriente. Las exportaciones se avaluaron en la cantidad de 64,805,036.40 pesos, que arrojo un aumento de 11,037,235.66 pesos, comparada con la suma de 53,767,800.74 pesos, á que ascendió el valor de las del mismo trimestre de 1906–7.

Durante el mes de septiembre de 1907 se importaron mercancías extranjeras por valor de 20,906,073.05 pesos, contra 18,355,371.25 pesos en el mismo mes de 1906, ó sea un aumento de 2,550,701.80 pesos. Las exportaciones hechas durante septiembre de 1907 estuvieron avaluadas en 20,128,669.42 pesos, en comparación con 16,343,614.52 pesos, ó sea un incremento de 3,785,054.90 pesos.

Es digno de notarse el aumento de las exportaciones cuando se tiene en cuenta que durante los años económicos de 1905–6 y 1906–7 disminuyeron de una manera considerable.

En el siguiente cuadro se indican las clases de mercancías recibidas durante el período que se examina, haciéndose la clasificación de acuerdo con la tarifa de importación vigente en la República; dánse también las cifras correspondientes al mismo período de 1906–7, por vía de comparación:

IMPORTACIÓN.

[Valor de factura en moneda mexicana.]

Mercancías.	Tres primeros meses del año fiscal—	
	1907-8.	1906-7.
	Pesos.	*Pesos.*
Materias animales	4,147,350.19	4,742,507.71
Materias vegetales	8,143,607.06	6,582,508.14
Materias minerales	20,752,353.89	16,406,850.97
Mejidos y sus manufacturas	7,473,284.68	6,255,440.90
Productos químicos	2,581,387.60	2,048,583.34
Bebidas	1,731,075.51	1,650,870.01
Papel y sus aplicaciones	1,547,259.52	1,255,095.48
Maquinas y aparatos	8,131,511.81	6,247,155.27
Vehículos	2,531,171.39	1,709,694.06
Armas y explosivos	1,079,583.84	943,147.34
Diversos	2,788,804.94	2,250,114.36
Total importación	60,907,390.43	50,091,967.58

Según la clasificación de la nomenclatura de exportación, las mercancías que se enviaron al extranjero fueron como se detalla á continuación, expresándose también las cifras de los tres primeros meses de 1906–7, por vía de comparación:

EXPORTACIÓN.

[Valor de factura en moneda mexicana.]

Mercancías.	Tres primeros meses del año fiscal de—	
	1907–8.	1906–7.
	Pesos.	*Pesos.*
Productos minerales:		
Oro	5,511,563.70	5,721,317.12
Plata	30,042,867.94	21,562,917.27
Cobre	7,648,517.55	7,620,253.98
Otros	1,969,955.28	1,722,495.08
Productos vegetales:		
Algodón	1,073,335.75	92,204.00
Caucho	2,003,820.80	890,917.00
Frutas frescas	1,601,650.00	1,827,409.00
Henequén	6,343,167.00	6,429,097.91
Otros	5,096,250.54	4,512,183.58
Productos animales	2,137,351.80	2,571,304.78
Productos manufacturados	729,474.47	634,366.02
Diversos	647,080.57	183,335.00
Total exportación:		
Metales preciosos	35,554,431.64	27,284,234.39
Demás artículos	29,250,604.76	26,483,566.35
Total general	64,805,036.40	53,767,800.74

El total de las importaciones se distribuye de la manera siguiente, según la procedencia de las mercancías:

Países.	Tres primeros meses de—	
	1907–8.	1906–7.
	Pesos.	*Pesos.*
Europa	23,296,795.35	18,422,402.20
Asia	436,242.33	319,894.27
Africa	25,523.73	50,785.20
América del Norte	36,699,499.35	31,185,125.18
América Central	13,727.65	8,683.28
América del Sur	389,632.68	43,056.61
Antillas	35,147.34	46,179.74
Oceanía	10,822.00	15,841.00
Total	60,907,390.43	50,091,967.58

Alemania se halla á la cabeza de los países europeos con una cantidad de 7,569,413.95 pesos; le sigue la Gran Bretaña, que antes ocupaba el primer puesto, con importaciones por valor de 6,528,114.99 pesos; Francia ocupa el tercer puesto con 4,915,814.90 pesos, seguida por España con 1,867,870.81 pesos. Á la cabeza de todos los países del mundo se hallan los Estados Unidos, que aparecen acreditados con más de la mitad del valor total de las importaciones, ó sea 36,557,312.29 pesos.

Las exportaciones fueron destinadas de la manera expuesta en el siguiente cuadro:

Países.	Tres primeros meses de—	
	1907-8.	1906-7.
	Pesos.	*Pesos.*
Europa	19,290,042.27	16,889,725.60
Asia	500.00	
América del Norte	44,475,372.79	35,938,320.54
América Central	228,165.95	262,272.60
América del Sur	19,036.39	26,995.00
Antillas	791,919.00	650,487.00
Total	64,805,036.40	53,767,800.74

De los países europeos la Gran Bretaña recibe la mayor cantidad de las exportaciones mexicanas, hallándose acreditada con 9,651,-701.59 pesos. La siguen: Alemania, con 5,523,526.99 pesos; Francia, con 1,807,648.50; Bélgica, con 1,175,541.19 pesos, y España, con 1,109,074 pesos; otros países aparecen con cantidades de poca consideración. En la lista de los países compradores, los Estados Unidos están también á la cabeza, habiéndo tomado del valor total de las exportaciones del trimestre que se examina mercancías por valor de 44,402,475.79 pesos.

SITUACIÓN DE LA HACIENDA PÚBLICA Y LA PERSPECTIVA QUE PRESENTA EL AÑO DE 1908-9.

El 14 de diciembre de 1907 el Licenciado Ives Limantour, Secretario de Hacienda de México, como tiene por costumbre hacerlo anualmente, envió al Congreso Nacional una relación acerca de los ingresos y egresos correspondientes al año económico de 1906–7 y el proyecto del presupuesto que comprende un cálculo de los ingresos y egresos correspondientes al año de 1908–9, expresándose el valor en oro mexicano.

El cálculo normal de la renta se fija en $103,385,000, y el total de egresos se fija en $103,203,824.63, lo cual deja un sobrante de $181,-175.37.

Al hacer comentarios sobre la situación ecónomica y financiera del país, el Secretario Limantour dice que á la terminación del año de 1906 se creyó que en el siguiente año no ocurriría ningún cambio en las condiciones generalmente prósperas que prevalecen en todos los ámbitos de la República, esperanzas que se han visto confirmadas por un desarrollo material y de vitalidad económica que anuncian un continuado incremento en todos los ramos.

Los derechos de importación y consulares muestran un aumento considerable, es decir, un aumento de más de un 16 por ciento en comparación con el año anterior, por más que los tipos del arancel no se han cambiado. La venta de estampillas comunes también revela un aumento notable en la actividad de las transacciones nacionales, á

pesar de que en el transcurso del último año fiscal la tarifa del timbre fué modificada, haciéndose una reducción bastante grande de las cuotas que se imponen á la mayor parte de las operaciones; y en cuanto á la contribución federal que se cobra sobre todo impuesto ó ingreso que recaudan las oficinas de los Estados y de los municipios, también se advierte un incremento considerable que demuestra que la recaudación de los impuestos continúa aumentando.

La demanda de estampillas especiales para efectuar el pago de las contribuciones sobre minas, tabaco, bebidas alcohólicas, géneros ó tejidos de algodón y explosivos, también indican un constante aumento en las industrias sujetas á dichas contribuciones.

El producto del servicio postal y líneas telegráficas muestra un incremento considerable, en tanto que en el Distrito Federal la actividad en las transacciones de bienes raíces así como en las empresas comerciales é industriales, consideradas en conjuntas, fué mayor que en los años anteriores.

En cuanto á la producción agrícola del año, dícese que con los datos que han podido obtenerse es imposible predecir la utilidad probable de las cosechas del país para las necesidades nacionales. La importación de maíz y trigo extranjero constituye uno de los factores más importantes para determinar el estado del mercado monetario local, debido á las grandes remesas de dinero que se han hecho al extranjero con motivo de las exigencias del estado actual financiero.

La producción y exportación de metales preciosos que, junto con el cobre y el plomo, representan más de un 95 por ciento de la producción mineral, se calcula como sigue: Producción de oro, $36,563,898; exportación de oro, $23,873,713; producción de plata, $77,088,827; exportación de plata, $99,861,790. Estas cifras demuestran que la producción de oro ha permanecido prácticamente estacionaria, en tanto que la de plata muestra un aumento de $1,483,223 en comparación con 1905–6. La producción de cobre y plomo ha disminuído según las cifras anunciadas, debido al hecho de haberse cerrado algunas de las minas de metales de baja ley, al paso que el cinc, antimonio y otras substancias minerales se exportaron en mayor escala.

El análisis de las cifras relativas al comercio extranjero de la República muestra que el valor de las importaciones en 1906-7 ascendió á $233,363,388, en comparación con $220,004,755 en el año económico anterior, lo cual muestra un aumento de $13,358,633. El valor de las mercancías que entraron libres de derechos muestra una merma de $11,000,000, al paso que el valor de las mercancías imponibles obtuvo un aumento de más de $24,000.000.

Adviértese un aumento en el valor de las importaciones de substancias animales, materias textiles y sus productos, productos químicos y farmacéuticos, y, en general, en todas las partidas del arancel que afectan las mercancías importadas. Sin embargo, el

aumento mayor y más significativo se muestra en la maquinaria y aparatos de todas clases, cuyo valor, que antes ascendió á $20,410,722 ha subido á $27,735,743, ó sea un aumento de $7,325,020. Durante los dos años de referencia el valor de las importaciones de carros, automóbiles y vehículos de todas clases, ascendió á $9,000,308 y $4,595,157, respectivamente. La disminución de $7,871,480 en el valor de las importaciones de substancias minerales se debe al hecho de que en 1905-6 se acuñaron grandes cantidades de monedas mexicanas en los Estados Unidos, y aunque en 1906-7 dichas transacciones ascendieron á $23,000,000 fueron menores que en el año anterior.

Las cifras relativas á las exportaciones muestran un valor total de $248,018,010, en comparación con $271,138,809 en 1905–6. El Secretario Limantour dice que esta aparente disminución en el valor de las exportaciones se explica de la manera siguiente:

"En el presupuesto del año pasado se expresó que suponiendo que los $39,000,000 en oro que se importaron en 1905–6 dió por resultado una exportación artificial de pesos en plata en una cantidad equivalente, el valor total de las exportaciones, teniendo este hecho en cuenta, no fué $271,000,000 sino $232,000,000. Aceptando la exactitud de este criterio y careciéndose de datos más precisos, puede sostenerse que por cuanto el valor total de las exportaciones en 1906–7 ascendió á $248,000,000, incluyendo por lo menos 13,000,000 de pesos en plata que fueron enviados al extranjero en cambio de monedas de oro mexicanas y extranjeras que á su vez se incluyen en el valor de las importaciones, es necesario descontar la cantidad de referencia del valor de las exportaciones, á fin de que este último pueda calcularse en $235,000,000. Teniendo en cuenta estas explicaciones se comprende que el valor de las exportaciones de productos del país en 1906–7 excedió un poco, es decir, en $3,000,000 al de las exportaciones de 1905–6. El valor de estos últimos excedió con mucho al de las cualquier otro año anterior."

Con excepción del oro y la plata, el valor de las exportaciones de metales en el año de referencia fué como sigue: Cobre, $28,800,000; plomo, $3,644,739, y otros metales como cinc y antimonio, $4,072,982.

El valor de los productos vegetales exportados se expresa como sigue: Henequén, $31,440,246; ixtle, $3,813,176; cáfe, $7,237,529; tabaco en rama, $1,894,830; garbanzos, $4,084,521; goma de mascar, $2,144,724; maderas de construcción, $2,169,778; maderas de tinte, $739,810; goma, incluso guayule, $6,678,926, y plantas de guayule, $61,225.

El valor de las exportaciones de chicle y el guayule que comenzó á exportarse hace cinco años, en la actualidad excede de $6,500,000 anuales; el valor de las exportaciones de garbanzos se ha triplicado; el del ixtle de $3,000,000 ha subido á $3,800,000 y el valor del chicle

muestra un aumento de 50 por ciento. El valor de las exportaciones del henequén se calcula aproximadamente en $30,000,000, y las cantidades que se han embarcado fluctúan desde 82,000 toneladas hasta 110,000 que se embarcaron en 1906–7. El año no fué muy favorable para el café cuya exportación se valuó en $2,000,000.

El valor de los productos animales que se exportaron ascendió á $11,151,928, lo cual muestra una baja de $571,497 en comparación con el año anterior. El ganado que representó uno de los artículos de exportación principales se exportó por valor de $1,201,693, y el valor de los cueros crudos exportados ascendió á $8,875,091.

El valor del azúcar de refino que se exportó ascendió á $1,164,339; el del azúcar sin purgar ascendió á $26,612; la harina y panes de semilla de algodón se valuaron en $846,280; los sombreros de guano, $631,219; cueros y cupieles curtidos, $34,883, y tabaco elaborado, $493,228.

Por la relación que antecede el Secretario LIMANTOUR hace el siguiente resumen del comercio extranjero: Valor total de las importaciones en 1906–7, $233,363,388; valor total de las exportaciones, $248,018,010, y el excedente del valor de las exportaciones respecto del de las importaciones ascendió á $14,654,622.

Existe una gran diferencia entre este exceso en el valor y el que se muestra en los datos correspondientes al año de 1905–6 que ascendió á $51,134,054, y también existe diferencia, aunque un poco menor, entre dicho exceso en el valor y en el de 1904–5 que ascendió á $30,315,489.

Al hacer comentarios sobre lo que queda expuesto el Secretario LIMANTOUR dice lo siguiente: "En otros años se han dado minuciosas explicaciones acerca de aquellos factores que por más que afectaban el valor de las importaciones y las exportaciones, no se incluyen ni pueden incluirse en los datos estadísticos fiscales que se limitan á notar los productos naturales y fabricados y las cantidades de monedas que entran y salen. También se ha explicado que la nación mexicana tiene que hacer anualmente pagos de gran consideración en pago de los intereses devengados sobre el capital invertido en el país y de las ganancias que obtienen en las empresas comerciales cuyos dueños residen en países extranjeros, y á los precitados pagos deben añadirse los que se hacen estrictamente en pago de las importaciones. No cabe la menor duda de que el excedente que hubo el año pasado en el valor de las exportaciones, y que ascendió á más de $14,000,000, fué del todo insuficiente para satisfacer esta deuda. Ni siquiera el excedente que se obtuvo en 1905–6 y que acendió á $51,000,000 fué suficiente para hacer frente á dicha deuda. Á fin de entender este aserto es necesario recordar que todos los bonos de nuestra deuda pública, con excepción de una proporción relativamente pequeña, están en poder de extranjeros y que dicha deuda exige un pago que

no baja de $24,000,000 anuales; que además de la deuda del Gobierno Federal algunos de los Estados y municipalidades han contraído deudas cuyos bonos los poseen extranjeros y de los cuales el pago anual asciende por lo menos á $1,000,000; que las compañías de ferrocarriles tienen que enviar al extranjero más de $25,000,000 cada año en pago de intereses de sus bonos, y que los bancos distribuyen anualmente millones de pesos en dividendos fuera de la República. Todos estos detalles, amén del interés y las ganancias distribuídas por sociedades particulares, en su totalidad ascienden á una suma que exceda con mucho á la diferencia que resulta á favor del valor de las exportaciones en nuestro comercio internacional, y por consecuencia se ha llegado á la conclusión de que la diferencia entre el debe y haber, considerados como tales, respectivamente, las remesas de fondos, las libranzas, bonos y mercancías que tenemos que enviar anualmente al extranjero y que tenemos derecho á nuestra vez, á recibir del extranjero, se pagan año tras año mediante la inversión natural y espontánea en México de capital extranjero."

Se demuestra que el estado de los varios ferrocarriles que funcionan en toda la República es satisfactorio, notándose aumentos en todos los ramos del tráfico. Las cifras correspondientes al año de referencia muestran que se condujeron 10,187,121 pasajeros, ó sea un aumento de un 16.7 por ciento; que las ganancias derivadas de la conducción de pasajeros ascendieron á $15,942,776, ó sea un aumento de un 30.7 por ciento; que se transportaron 9,538,354 toneladas de carga, que representan un aumento de un 6.4 por ciento, y que la ganancia resultante del transporte de carga ascendió á $53,529,981, ó sea un aumento de un 9.3 por ciento.

El mayor aumento en la conducción de pasajeros ocurrió en el Ferrocarril Central Mexicano, y el aumento en la conducción de carga en las líneas Nacional y Central Mexicanas hubiera sido mayor si hubieran contado con un abastecimiento adecuado de material rodante. La disminución en el tonelaje del Ferrocarril Nacional de Tehuantepec, comparada con la carga transportada en 1905–6, se explica por haberse suspendido la conducción de materiales para las obras de puertos en Salina Cruz y Coatzacoalcos. Sin embargo, esto se compensa con el aumento en los tipos de flete á través del Istmo, de manera que se ha anunciado un aumento considerable en las ganancias.

El 30 de junio de 1907 el activo y pasivo de los bancos del país ascendió á $723,763,584, contra $628,881,834 en la misma fecha del año anterior. El capital suscrito ó social de los bancos que el 30 de junio de 1906 ascendia á $146,600,000, en 1907 ascendió á $162,600,000, mostrándose así un aumento de $16,000,000. .

La existencia en caja bajó en $3,583,652, diminución que sin duda fué ocasionada por la extracción de pesos fuertes con destino al

extranjero, que para los bancos importó $13,000,000. La situación monetaria del país ha mejorado mucho del año pasado á esta parte. La escasez de moneda fraccionaria que entonces prevalecía ha desaparecido por completo y la circulación del oro es mucho más abundante. Nulifica en parte el incremento de estas dos clases de moneda, la exportación de pesos fuertes provocada en 1906–7 por la misma causa que la determinó en 1905–6: el alza del precio de la plata en barras respecto del valor en oro de dicha moneda. La cantidad total de acuñación de moneda desde la época de la instalación de la reforma monetaria que se efectuó el 5 de mayo de 1905 hasta el 30 de junio de 1907 ascendió á $95,561,570. Deduciendo de esta cantidad los $74,416,231 en pesos fuertes que se exportaron y los $14,456,923 que representan las piezas de oro acuñadas, se demuestra que el aumento en la circulación de la moneda hasta el 30 de junio de 1907 ascendió á $5,688,416. Á fines de noviembre de 1907 dicho aumento se había elevado á más de $11,000,000.

La Comisión de Cambios y Moneda ha desempeñado sus funciones con notable acierto. Aprovechándose de todas las circunstancias favorables, ha logrado en dos años substituir casi todas las monedas antiguas por piezas acuñadas en conformidad con la Ley del Régimen Monetario decretada á principios de 1905; ha distribuido la nueva moneda en todo el territorio nacional, haciendo frente á las numerosas dificultades que la escasez ó la abundancia del medio circulante han proporcionado en cada localidad; ha atraído el oro á la República en grandes cantidades y retenido una buena parte del que se produce aquí, y, por último, ha contribuído á mantener con firmeza los tipos de cambio con las naciones extranjeras.

Á principios de 1907 el valor de los bienes raíces y las cotizaciones de las acciones industriales de minas y comerciales continuaron subiendo y al establecer una comparación con las cotizaciones semejantes de 1906 en general se muestran resultados satisfactorios. Sin embargo, á mediados de año la escasez en los mercados monetarios extranjeros comenzó á afectar la situación mexicana, y cada vez se hacía más difícil obtener la inversión de capital en empresas mexicanas. El año económico de 1908–9 ha de sufrir las consecuencias de este estado anómalo é intranquilo, pero la República Mexicana continúa mostrando vigor y vitalidad en sus recursos públicos, los cuales la colocan en un puesto honoroso entre las naciones del mundo.

En el cálculo del presupuesto de rentas correspondientes al año económico de 1908–9 el producto de las contribuciones sobre el comercio extranjero se calcula en $49,600,000; el de las contribuciones internas se calcula en $32,055,000; el de las contribuciones extraordinarias en el Distrito Federal y en los Territorios se calcula en $10,930,000; el de los servicios públicos en $6,405,000; el de las rentas derivadas de los terrenos nacionales se calcula en $265,000 y el de las ganancias y otras fuentes de renta menores se calcula en $4,130,000.

RENTAS POSTALES DURANTE 1906–7.

Según estadísticas recientemente publicadas por la Dirección General de Correos de la República Mexicana, los ingresos que tuvo el servicio de correos durante el año económico de 1906–7 sumaron un total de $4,031,124.86 en moneda mexicana, cantidad que, comparada con la de $3,653,315.87, renta percibida durante el ejercicio de 1905–6, arroja un aumento de $377,808.99, ó sea de 10.34 por ciento.

RENTAS POSTALES, PRIMER TRIMESTRE DE 1907–8.

Las rentas postales recaudadas en la República Mexicana en el primer trimestre de 1907–8 (julio á septiembre de 1907) ascendieron á $1,043,065.88 en moneda mexicana, en comparación con la suma de $939,837.20 que se percibió en igual período del ejercicio de 1906–7, ó sea un aumento de $103,228.68 ó de 10.98 por ciento.

MEJORAS DE PUERTOS.

La Comisión de Defensa del Istmo encargada de hacer un estudio de los puertos mexicanos de Salina Cruz y Coatzacoalcos, que son los términos por el Atlántico y por el Pacífico del Ferrocarril de Tehuantepec, ha terminado su estudio de las condiciones existentes en Salina Cruz, y antes de mucho tiempo seguirá haciendo sus investigaciones en Coatzacoalcos. Se calcula que las obras de defensa recomendadas han de costar $20,000,000, moneda mexicana.

Han de transcurrir dos años antes de que los informes é investigaciones preliminares se terminen y antes de que comiencen realmente los trabajos de construcción.

TRÁFICO DE PROGRESO, YUCATÁN, EN EL PRIMER TRIMESTRE DE 1907–8.

Durante los tres primeros meses de 1907–8 se exportaron por el Puerto de Progreso, Yucatán, 25,937,342 kilogramos de henequén, valorados en $6,323,765 en moneda mexicana. En el mismo trimestre se importaron por dicho puerto mercancías nacionales por valor de $3,727,500, y extranjeras por valor de $2,320,773.

BASE DE LOS IMPUESTOS DE TIMBRE Y ADUANAS EN ENERO DE 1908.

La circular mensual publicada por el Departamento de Hacienda de México anuncia que el precio legal por kilogramo de plata pura durante el mes de enero de 1908 será de $37.21 moneda mexicana, con arreglo á los cálculos prescritos en el decreto de 25 de marzo de 1905. Este precio servirá de base para el pago de los impuestos de timbre y los derechos de aduana cuando se use la moneda de plata mexicana.

MODIFICACIÓN DE LOS DERECHOS SOBRE EL AZÚCAR.

El Presidente de los Estados Unidos Mexicanos promulgó el 21 de diciembre de 1907 una ley del Congreso de la República que reforma la fracción 125 del arancel vigente, de manera que los derechos de importación sobre el azúcar común, azúcar candi y azúcar refinado de todas clases, quedan aumentados de 2.50 pesos por cada 100 kilogramos, peso bruto, á 5 pesos por cada 100 kilogramos, peso bruto. Dicha ley comenzará á regir á las doce de la noche del 15 de febrero de 1908.

CONDICIONES QUE RIGEN LA INDUSTRIA DEL GUAYULE.

El Cónsul General GOTTSCHALK, en la ciudad de México, ha transmitido un importante informe al Departamento de Estado de los Estados Unidos que contiene varios datos relativos á las condiciones que actualmente rigen en la industria de la goma de guayule, y el peligro que en lo porvenir corre dicha planta á menos que se descubra un método seguro de propagarla. El Señor GOTTSCHALK cree muy importante el hecho de que el valor de la industria del guayule, tal como en la actualidad se explota, no ha de durar mucho tiempo.

Á continuación se publica un resumen de dicho informe:

Uno de los productos que durante los dos últimos años ha llamado la atención en todo el mundo es el guayule (*Parthenium argentum*) que anteriormente se consideraba nada más como una hierba, cuya mera prescencia disminuía el valor de los terrenos, pero que de la noche á la mañana se descubrió que tenía cierta importancia comercial como una planta productora de goma. Los terrenos productores de guayule de la parte norte de México en seguida comenzaron á ser explotados y los precios de éstos se aumentaron enormemente, al paso que se instalaron fábricas principalmente en Torreon, Saltillo y Coahuila, para convertir el arbusto en un producto comercial. Se hicieron contratos para la entrega de grandes cantidades de dicho arbusto, y en algunos casos el precio subió á $50 oro por tonelada, habiéndose anunciado un rendimiento de $1 oro por libra. Como resultado de este entusiasmo, se investigaron las propiedades de dicha planta, habiéndose obtenido por resultado que nadie parecía tener una idea definida en cuanto á la continua propagación de dicha planta. El dueño de una gran extensión de guayule, le manifestó al Señor GOTTSCHALK que había descubierto, demasiado tarde, que si se tuviese el cuidado de dejar fructificar antes de cortarlo, y se sacudiese cuidadosamente la planta después de haberse cortado á fin de que las semillas cayesen el suelo, este último continuaría produciendo dicha planta. Sin embargo, como quiera que el mejor rendimiento de goma ha de obtenerse del corte de una planta relativamente joven, y además, como la semilla podría permanecer latente é improductiva

durante dos ó tres años, se comprenderá desde luego que el explotador de goma ordinario no estaría dispuesto á adoptar las precauciones necesarias.

El arbusto del guayule que se está explotando en las fábricas del país, crece en un área limitada de México. No se despliega ningún cuidado para recogerla ni se hacen siembras ni la planta se propaga de otra manera. Sin embargo, un contrato reciente celebrado con el Gobierno relativo á esta industria, comprende ciertas estipulaciones acerca de este asunto.

Los subidos precios que ofrecen las fábricas han hecho que dicho arbusto se recoja descabelladamente antes de madurarse, habiéndose obtenido por resultado que en muchos casos se reciben grandes cantidades de guayule que no rinden la goma que debieran rendir.

El Profesor F. A. Lloyd, ex-catedrático del Laboratorio de Botánica en el Instituto de Carnegie establecido en Tucson, Arizona, en los Estados Unidos, al tratar de descubrir un medio de propagar la planta de una manera adecuada, ha hecho experimentos científicos en una de las plantaciones de Chihuahua, pero hasta la fecha no se han anunciado los resultados de sus experimentos.

El consumo actual del guayule en la región central donde dicha industria se lleva á cabo es como de 1,000 toneladas de la planta por mes, y, por tanto, el Señor Gottschalk anuncia que los fabricantes le han manifestado que sus empresas llegarán á su fin dentro de tres á cuatro años, á menos que se empleen métodos eficaces para la reproducción de la planta.

El artículo del Doctor Endlich, ilustrado con cuatro fotografías del guayule en su estado natural, y publicado en la revista intitulada "Tropenpflanzer" del mes de julio de 1907, puede citarse como uno de los documentos más interesantes que se han publicado sobre este tema. Dicha planta crece especialmente lozana en los costados de las pendientes, al pie de las colinas y montañas, y en las planicies á una altura que varía desde 900 hasta 2,000 metros. El tamaño de la planta varía según la edad, las condiciones del suelo y la localidad, y el término medio de su altura es como 60 centímetros. El ejemplar más alto que se encontró en la montaña de Ramírez, Estado de Coahuila, tenía un 1.36 metros.

El guayule crece con mucha lentitud, y se supone que las plantas que en la actualidad se recogen tengan hasta 30 años de edad. Según la opinión del Señor Marx, el primer año la planta crece hasta una altura que sólo llega á 15 centímetros, y el tallo es muy débil. Á pesar de este hecho, florece y produce semillas desde dicho período, pero no puede explotarse con provecho hasta que tiene ocho años. La planta no produce caucho hasta el tercer año, y produce muy poco hasta el octavo año. El Señor P. Olsson Seffer, el distinguido director de la Estación Botánica y del Laboratorio de Zacualpa,

México, dice que la altura de las plantas que tienen tres ó cuatro años de edad, llega á 50 centímetros, en tanto que la de las plantas que tienen seis años llega á 75 centímetros, y el término medio del peso es 4 libras. Por consiguiente, no es exagerado calcular que la edad á la cual el guayule puede explotarse con mayor provecho es de los ocho á los diez años.

La florescencia se verifica naturalmente de septiembre á octubre, por más que la lluvia y la elevación del terreno pueden modificar considerablemente este período. Es de advertir que, á pesar de su lento desarrollo, la planta del guayule florece y fructifica dentro de un año después de sembrarse la semilla. Esta última, que es muy abundante, no siempre se madura por completo, sobre todo en las regiones más frías.

Los peritos en la materia calculan en 75,000 hectáreas el área donde se encuentra la planta del guayule en México, es decir, en la parte norte de los Estados de Zacatecas y San Luís Potosí, la parte oriental de Durango, y especialmente en la parte sur de Coahuila. Encuéntrase también dicha planta en mayor ó menor abundancia, en los Estados de Nuevo León y Chihuahua, en México, y en Nuevo México, Arizona y Texas en los Estados Unidos.

El Señor Otto Koehler, presidente de la Compañía de Goma Nacional, cree que la planta del guayule que se encuentra en los Estados Unidos no produce tanta goma como la de México, pero opina que podría explotarse con utilidad donde haya abundancia de agua y donde los tipos de flete sean moderados. Recientemente se organizó una compañía en Nueva York con el fin de explotar la planta del guayule en el oeste de Texas, y se ha de construír una fábrica en Del Río, Estado de Texas, para la elaboración del producto.

El verdadero guayule que se conoce en el comercio es el *Parthenium argentatum*. No debe confundirse este guayule con una clase de la misma familia conocida por "Mariola" (*Parthenium incanum*) que crece en las mismas regiones que el verdadero guayule, y que como una planta productora de goma es casi inutil. Los rasgos característicos de las dos plantas son los siguientes:

Parthenium argentatum: Hojas y retoños tomentosos, gris plateados; tallo corto; ramas cortas con corteza lisa; hojas lanceoladas, de 2 á 5 centímetros de largo y de 5 á 15 milímetros de ancho, agudas ó enteras con un tercio lóbulos agudos; pecíolo delgado y largo.

Parthenium incanum: Hojas y retoños tomentosos, blanquizcos ó parduzcos; arbusto muy ramificado desde la base, de 30 á 60 centímetros de alto; ramas largas, de corteza rugosa con hendeduras longitudinales, hojas oblongas ú ovales, pequeñas, de 25 milímetros de largo y 2 de ancho, profundamente penatilobuladas y pecíolo muy corto.

El Señor ENDLICH calcula que la presente existencia de guayule asciende á 375,000 toneladas, y funda su cálculo en un promedio de producción que varía desde 500 hasta 800 kilogramos por hectárea, incluyendo en su cálculo las regiones menos productivas, en tanto que la revista denominada "The India Rubber World" cree que la producción natural asciende como á 300,000 toneladas, de las cuales de 20,000 á 30,000 toneladas ya se han explotado. Se calcula que el término medio del producto de goma de las plantas en completo desarrollo varía desde un 8 hasta un 11 por ciento. Sin embargo algunos peritos creen que si se introducen mejoras en el procedimiento de extracción, el producto puede llegar hasta un 18 por ciento.

Hasta 1905 los comerciantes alemanes compraron la cosecha del guayule en los puntos donde se producía, y embarcaban para Alemania varios millares de toneladas de dicho producto á precios que les proporcionaban utilidad. El 1° de noviembre del año de referencia este tráfico se paralizó repentinamente por el hecho de que el Gobierno mexicano le impuso un derecho de exportación casi prohibitivo de 15 pesos por tonelada del producto en su estado natural. Esta medida vino á estimular el desarrollo de la industria local, y muchos particulares construyeron fábricas y se obtuvieron concesiones del Gobierno para explotar los terrenos productores de guayule por períodos que variaban desde quince hasta veinte años.

Formáronse ricas compañías para llevar á cabo la explotación de esta industria, y en la actualidad en el norte de México existen 10 grandes compañías que cuentan con 15 fábricas en operación y varias en vías de construcción, en las cuales están interesadas algunos capitalistas americanos prominentes. Dícese que una de estas compañías—esto es, la que se denomina "Continental Rubber Company"—ha invertido 20,000,000 de francos en la compra de terrenos, patentes y en la construcción de fábricas, etc. La fábrica principal, situada en Torreón, tiene una fuerza motriz de 1,800 caballos, y cuenta con la maquinaria suficiente para tratar 100 toneladas de materia prima diariamente. Cierta cantidad de guayule tiene que ser transportado á lomo de mulas por una distancia de más de 100 millas, antes de llegar á la fábrica.

El capital alemán también está interesado en gran escala en la industria del guayule, y dícese que el Banco de Dresde y la casa de KRUPP han invertido gruesas sumas de dinero en esta industria.

El procedimiento de extracción varía en cuanto á los detalles, y representa comò 142 patentes que han sido concedidas á inventores en estos últimos años. En cuanto al procedimiento químico, que por lo general es más costoso que el mecánico, pero que da mejor resultado, los álcalis han sido reemplazados con los sulfuros de carbono.

El costo de una tonelada de caucho preparada con soda cáustica asciende como á 120 pesos. El Señor MARX cree que el procedi-

miento de maceración de la materia prima y la extracción del caucho por la acción del vapor en una solución alcalina es el mejor.

Parece que los procedimientos mecánicos que en la actualidad se emplean no reunen todas las condiciones que se requieren. Dichos procedimientos son más económicos, pero producen una clase inferior de caucho que en el mercado alemán se cotiza á 3.50 marcos, en comparación con 5.50 marcos que se obtienen por el caucho que se produce mediante el procedimiento químico.

Las compañías interesadas en esta industria están haciendo esfuerzos por eliminar el 27 por ciento de substancia fibrosa, y la mayor parte de la resina que contiene el guayule que se trata por el procedimiento químico. Se han hecho experimentos en el uso del bagaso como combustible para producir fuerza motora, pero se ha demostrado que el empleo de este material daña muy pronto las calderas. Es probable que la resina se separe de la fibra y se use como un segundo producto, y que el residuo leñoso se utilice en la fabricación de papel. El bagaso que se obtiene del guayule que se trata con soda cáustica contiene cierta proporción de caucho que no ha sido posible eliminar.

Los tallos de guayule secos que antes sólo valían $15 plata por tonelada entregados en la fábrica, en la actualidad valen de 200 á 250 francos. El precio del caucho de guayule que en 1905 en los primeros embarques se fijo en 1.6 chelín, subió gradualmente á 2 chelines, 2.6 chelines y hasta 3 chelines en agosto de 1906. En aquella época el precio de dicho producto en el mercado de Nueva York bajó á 25 centavos por libra y 3 marcos por kilogramo en Hamburgo, á causa de las especulaciones de la "Continental Rubber Company." De entonces á acá el valor del caucho de guayule ha aumentado rápidamente, y la mejor calidad de este producto recientemente se vendió á razón de 65 centavos la libra en el mercado de Nueva York y á 5.75 marcos por kilogramo en Hamburgo. En el mes de mayo pasado, en Amberes se vendieron 9 toneladas de guayule de caucho á 5 francos por kilogramo. En la actualidad el precio varía desde 4 hasta 6.25 francos, según clase.

Considerado desde el punto de vista industrial, el guayule es una planta que produce caucho de una clase especial, blando y más ó menos pegajoso debido á la presencia de cierta cantidad (algunas veces muy considerable) de resina; es difícil conservarlo, y su vulcanización es lenta. Se hace necesario conocer perfectamente la manipulación del caucho de guayule para purificarlo y usarlo inmediatamente después que se termina el procedimiento de desecación. Las calidades de este producto que se obtienen actualmente, exentas de dos terceras partes de su contenido resinoso, proporcionan un producto muy semejante al caucho de Panamá, con el cual puede confundirse.

El guayule es un producto útil que tiene demanda permanente en el mercado, y cuyo valor ha de aumentar con arreglo á las mejoras que se introduzcan en los procedimientos de extracción. Sin embargo, la planta del guayule no abunda tanto como al principio se suponía, y si bien es verdad que las fábricas podrán tener un abastecimiento suficiente de dicho producto para satisfacer sus demandas durante algunos años, no es menos cierto que sólo puede suministrárseles permanentemente por medio del cultivo, y este problema apenas se ha estudiado hasta ahora.

Tanto el Señor Olsson Seffer, como la revista intitulada "La Vida Tropical," creen que el cultivo del guayule no puede llevarse á cabo con éxito en terrenos secos ó sin irrigación. El experimento que hizo el Señor Hoffmann trasplantando la planta del guayule en surcos irrigados, muestra que un 80 por ciento de las plantas trasplantadas prendieron y se desarrollaron, al paso que en los terrenos secos ó sin irrigación, sólo prendieron y se desarrollaron un 25 por ciento.

En cuanto al problema del cultivo de dicha planta, los dos factores principales que han de tenerse en cuenta son el suelo y el clima. El Señor Endlich cree que el terreno propicio para el cultivo de la expresada planta debe contener de un 20 á un 30 por ciento de materia calcárea, y una cantidad suficiente de humus para disminuir la evaporación y estimular el rápido crecimiento y desarrollo de este útil arbusto productor de goma.

NICARAGUA.

MENSAJE DEL PRESIDENTE J. SANTOS ZELAYA.

El día 1° de diciembre de 1907 el Presidente de Nicaragua dirigió un importante mensaje á la Asamblea Legislativa Nacional, en el cual se hace una reseña de los trabajos del Ejecutivo durante los dos años anteriores.

En dicho mensaje se hace especial mención de los trastornos intestinos de los Estados independientes de la América Central que dieron por resultado la Conferencia de Wáshington en pro del mantenimiento de la paz.

En cuanto á las relaciones con los Estados Unidos, el Presidente Zelaya dice que "Su Excelencia el Presidente Theodore Roosevelt, en todas las recientes dificultades Centroamericanas ha ofrecido graciosamente sus amistosos servicios hacia la reconciliación. Puedo aseguraros que muestras relaciones con los Estados Unidos de América son sinceras y cordiales, pues las pequeñas diferencias que han surgido acerca de algunos contratos que mi Gobierno celebró con los ciudadanos americanos, Herbert Emery y Samuel Weil, estoy seguro de que se han de arreglar satisfactoriamente."

El Presidente también anuncia el resultado satisfactorio de la misión del Señor Don J. D. Gómez, Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores, que visitó á los Estados Unidos y México como un agente personal y confidencial, con el fin de discutir los asuntos relativos á la América Central.

El Tratado de Amistad, Comercio y Navegación, así como la Convención Consular con el Imperio Alemán, han sido prorrogados por diez años. Se han celebrados tratados con la Gran Bretaña que comprenden el reconycimiento de la soberanía de Nicaragua sobre la Reserva Mosquitia y la anulación de los privilegios del puerto de San Juan del Norte.

También se han celebrado tratados de amistad, comercio y navegación con Italia y con Bélgica, el de extradición y la convención Consular.

Se están tomando medidas importantes para recoger datos estadísticos y efectuar la codificación de las leyes comerciales, en tanto que el Ejecutivo recomienda urgentemente reformas legislativas.

COMPAÑÍA PARA LA EXPLOTACIÓN DE HULARES NACIONALES.

El día 18 de octubre de 1907 el Presidente de la República de Nicaragua aprobó la escritura de sociedad de la "*Atlantic Industrial Company*," formada con el objeto de explotar los hulares nacionales existentes en el Departamento de Zelaya, distritos de Prinsapolka y Río Grande, y en la montaña de Bocay, que abraza los bosques de Jinotega y Comarca de Cabo de Gracias á Dios, y una pequeña cuchilla del Departamento de Segovia; la compañía se dedicará también á otros negocios que tienen relación con la extracción y exportación del hule. El capital de la sociedad es de $300,000, y es cesionaria de la concesión que hizo el Gobierno á los Señores Don Francisco Guerrero y General Don Juan de Dios Moreira para la explotación de los hulares nacionales mencionados, por el término de diez años á contar desde el 10 de septiembre de 1905.

LEY DE MARCAS DE FÁBRICA.

La "Gaceta Oficial" de 20 de noviembre de 1907 publica el texto de la nueva Ley de Marcas de Fábrica, que se dá á continuación:

Artículo 1. El Estado ampara dentro de su territorio la propiedad exclusiva de las marcas de fábrica y de comercio autorizadas en conformidad con esta ley.

Art. 2. Marca de fábrica ó de comercio es el signo especial aplicado á un producto agrícola ó industrial, ó á un artículo mercantil, para advertir al público su procedencia y diferenciarlo de los demás productos de su misma especie.

ART. 3. La designación del signo que ha de constituír una marca corresponde al productor del artículo para el cual se destina, pero no podrá usarse en la República como marcas:

I. Las denominaciones genéricas, los simples nombres geográficos y los de individuos ó asociaciones, á menos que la marca contenga, además, otros distintivos que sirvan para singularizar el objeto al cual se destina.

II. Todo signo que esté en pugna con la moral ó que tienda á ridiculizar ideas, personas, objetos ó instituciones que á juicio del Ministerio de Fomento sean dignos de general consideración.

III. Las armas, escudos y emblemas nacionales.

IV. Las armas, escudos ó emblemas de naciones, estados ó corporaciones políticas extranjeras, sin su respectivo consentimiento.

V. Los nombres, firmas y retratos de personas existentes sin su consentimiento.

VI. Las marcas idénticas ó substancialmente parecidas á las que ya estuvieren registradas cuando se pretenda amparar en las primeras, productos de la misma clase de los protegidos por las últimas.

ART. 4. El Gobierno establecerá una oficina especial de registro de marcas. Mientras tanto tendrá estas atribuciones la Dirección General de Obras Públicas, y el jefe de ésta se encargará de dicho registro.

ART. 5. Las solicitudes de registro deberán ser presentadas en papel del sello sexto al Ministerio de Fomento, suscritas por el interesado ó por su representante, provisto por lo menos de una carta-poder auténtica y contendrá lo siguiente:

(*a*) El nombre del propietario de la marca, su domicilio y nacionalidad.

(*b*) El nombre y ubicación de la fábrica ó establecimiento donde se produce el artículo á que se destina la marca.

(*c*) La designación y descripción de los objetos ó productos que con la marca se pretende singularizar.

(*d*) Descripción de la marca ilustrada con un facsímil de la misma, reproducido en tres ejemplares.

(*e*) En el caso de que la marca se ponga en hueco ó relieve ó de que represente alguna otra particularidad que no pueda hacerse conocer de modo gráfico, se presentarán dos ejemplares iguales con indicación de pormenores y detalles.

ART. 6. El registro de toda marca ocasiona un derecho de 25 pesos y deberá renovarse cada diez años. El retardo en la renovación no produce la pérdida de los derechos al uso exclusivo de la marca, pero mientras aquélla no se lleve á cabo, el interesado no tendrá acción para perseguir á los falsificadores de la marca y del artículo que ésta protege.

ART. 7. Presentada una solicitud sobre registro de marca, el Ministro de Fomento pedirá informe al jefe de la oficina de registro. Este funcionario hará un examen de los documentos presentados para cerciorarse de si están llenados los requisitos de ley, y evacuará el informe consiguiente dentro de tercero día. Si fuere favorable, el Ministro de Fomento dará la orden para que se registre, previo pago de los derechos respectivos.

ART. 8. El registro de una marca se hará siempre sin perjuicio de tercero y bajo la exclusiva responsabilidad del solicitante.

ART. 9. Hecho el registro, el jefe de la oficina expedirá al interesado la certificación del caso en papel del sello primero, documento que constituye el título al uso exclusivo de la marca.

ART. 10. Las cuestiones que puedan surgir sobre el derecho al uso exclusivo de una marca, sobre la prioridad de su registro y sobre su entidad con otras ya registradas, serán resueltas por los tribunales ordinarios.

ART. 11. Cuando haya habido cuestión judicial se registrará la sentencia que cause ejecutoria y se insertará en el certificado de registro.

ART. 12. Cada vez que se presente una solicitud para el registro de una marca de que trata el artículo 5, el Ministerio la hará publicar en el periódico oficial por tres meses consecutivos.

Vencidos los noventa días, si no se hubiere presentado oposición, el Ministerio acordará otorgar al solicitante el título de propiedad de la marca, el cual se extenderá en un pliego de papel del sello primero.

ART. 13. Si hubiere habido oposición, el Ministerio ordenará á las partes que ventilen sus derechos ante el juez común correspondiente, y en tal caso no extenderá el título sino á aquel á quien por sentencia ejecutoriada se hubiere declarado de mejor derecho.

ART. 14. Las marcas de fábrica no se transmiten sino con el establecimiento productor de los objetos á que sirven de distinción. En consecuencia, la transmisión de una marca lleva consigo el derecho de explotación industrial ó comercial de los productos amparados por ella. La transmisión no está sujeta á ninguna formalidad especial y se verificará conforme al derecho común, pero deberá ser registrada en la oficina de marcas, sin cuyo requisito no producirá efecto contra tercero.

ART. 15. El registro de una marca será nulo cuando se haya hecho contraviniendo á las disposiciones de esta ley, así como cuando la marca registrada lo haya sido con anterioridad por otro, en cuyo caso será declarada judicialmente la nulidad á petición de parte.

De la sentencia de nulidad se dará conocimiento al Ministerio de Fomento por el juez ó tribunal que hubiere conocido de ella en última instancia.

ART. 16. La acción para pedir la nulidad del registro de una marca corresponde á cualquiera que se crea perjudicado por él, también

podrá deducirla el Ministerio Público en los casos en que haya algún interés general.

Art. 17. Las cuestiones sobre nulidad de que trata el artículo anterior serán decididas por los tribunales ordinarios, y la sentencias ejecutorias que contengan tales decisiones se registrarán en la oficina respectiva.

Art. 18. Se considerarán reos del delito comprendido en el artículo 319 del Código Penal, y serán castigados con las penas en él establecidas los siguientes:

(*a*) Los que pongan á los artículos ó artefactos que expendan ó fabriquen una marca ya registrada legalmente á favor de otra persona.

(*b*) Los que pongan á los artículos ó artefactos que expendan ó produzcan una marca que sea imitación de la legalmente registrada, de tal modo que á primera vista se confundan con la legal.

(*c*) Los que pongan á los artículos mencionados una marca que aunque legalmente registrada se haga aparecer como si fuere otra por cualquiera adición, sustracción ó alteración.

(*d*) Los que pongan en venta ó circulación efectos marcados en las circunstancias que expresan los incisos anteriores.

Art. 19. Los artículos ó artefactos, objeto de los delitos expresados en el artículo anterior, caerán en comiso; pero cuando el dueño de una marca, legalmente registrada, se hubiere constituído acusador, tendrá derecho á que se le adjudiquen todos los productos que se encuentren revestidos con la marca ilegal, ya estén en poder del delincuente, ya en poder de un comisionista ó consignatario.

Art. 20. Las marcas de fábrica se conservarán á perpetuidad en la oficina de registro, así como los libros en que se consignarán sus detalles correspondientes; unos y otros podrán ser examinados por el que los solicite durante las horas que para tal objeto se designen y podrán obtener á su costo, copia certificada del registro, mediante el pago del derecho de un peso por cada certificación que se expida, además de lo escrito.

Art. 21. No se consideran como marca la forma, color, locuciones ó designaciones que no constituyen por sí solas el signo determinante de la especialidad para el comercio de un producto industrial.

Art. 22. La duración de la propiedad de las marcas de fábrica es indefinida; pero se entenderá abandonada por la clausura ó falta de producción por más de un año del establecimiento, fábrica ó negociación en que se haya empleado.

Art. 23. Quedan comprendidos en las disposiciones de esta ley los dibujos y modelos industriales.

Art. 24. Las prescripciones de la presente ley se aplicarán en todo aquello que no se oponga á los pactos internacionales sobre la materia, especialmente sobre marcas de comercio y de fábrica

celebrados durante la Segunda Conferencia Internacional Americana el 27 de enero de 1902.

ART. 25. Esta ley comenzará á tener sus efectos desde la fecha de su publicación en la "Gaceta Oficial."

NUEVO SERVICIO DE VAPORES ENTRE NUEVA YORK Y EL CALLAO.

Por virtud de la inauguración del nuevo servicio de vapores que la Compañía Nacional de Vapores y Diques del Callao ha de establecer entre Nueva York y el Callao, vía Panamá, se obtendrá un gran adelanto económico en las relaciones comerciales de ambos puertos. Esta empresa, que, según se espera, ha de estar operando por completo á principios de 1908, cuenta con un capital de $15,000,000 y percibirá una subvención de $1,500,000 del Gobierno Peruano. En la actualidad se están construyendo para ella en Inglaterra vapores rápidos, y la empresa se propone hacer el viaje de Panamá al Callao en cinco días en vez de once ó doce días, que es el tiempo que en la actualidad se toman los vapores.

El puerto del Callao es el más importante que hay en el Pacífico entre San Francisco y Valparaíso, y no cabe duda de que la rapidez en el despacho de sus transacciones comerciales con los puertos de Europa y de los Estados Unidos, que esta nueva línea de vapores ha de proporcionar, dará un gran impulso al desarrollo del precitado puerto.

RENTAS ADUANERAS DE IQUITOS EN LOS DIEZ PRIMEROS MESES DE 1907.

Los ingresos que percibió la aduana fluvial de Iquitos, Perú, durante los diez primeros meses del año 1907, hicieron la suma de £217,363. 3. 33, en comparación £139,754. 8. 32, suma recaudada en igual período de 1906.

FERROCARRIL DE CUZCO Á LA CONVENCIÓN.

Con fecha 12 de septiembre de 1907, la Cámara de Diputados del Congreso Peruano aprobó un proyecto de ley relativo á la construcción de un ferrocarril que, partiendo de la ciudad de Cuzco, y atravesando las Provincias de Calca y Urubamba, ó la de Anta y Urubamba, llegue hasta Santa Ana, Capital de la Provincia de la Convención.

SALVADOR.

RENTAS ADUANERAS DEL PRIMER TRIMESTRE DE 1907.

Durante el primer trimestre de 1907 las aduanas de la República de El Salvador rindieron al fisco una renta total de 1,087,249.45 pesos que, comparada con la percibida en igual período de 1906, arroja una disminución de 291,808.85 pesos.

URUGUAY.

RENTA DE ADUANAS EN LOS DIEZ MESES DE 1907.

La renta de aduana del Uruguay correspondiente al mes de octubre de 1907 ascendió á $1,014,719.84, en comparación con $1,127,889 en el mismo mes de 1906, mostrándose así una baja de $113,169,000.

En los diez meses que terminaron en octubre de 1907 dicha renta muestra un aumento de $265,232, en comparación con el período correspondiente del año anterior, puesto que las sumas totales de los dos años ascendieron á $11,271,871 y $11,006,639, respectivamente, de enero á octubre, inclusive.

CONTRIBUCIÓN SOBRE LAS COMPAÑÍAS DE SEGUROS EXTRANJERAS.

Entre las prescripciones de la ley sobre impuestos del Uruguay correspondiente á 1908, tal como la ha presentado la legislatura al Gobierno y sancionada prácticamente, constituye una cláusula por virtud de la cual la contribución que se impone sobre los premios que cobran las compañías de seguros extranjeras en la República, de un 3 por ciento se ha elevado á un 7 por ciento. Tanto á las compañías nacionales como á las extranjeras se les exige que presten una fianza considerable como garantía para el Gobierno.

RENTA MUNICIPAL DE MONTEVIDEO.

En 1905–6 la renta municipal de Montevideo ascendió á $1,446,168.74, en comparación con $1,265,250.69 en el año económico anterior. Estas cifras son las más altas que se han recaudado en siete años.

LA AMÉRICA COMERCIAL EN 1906.

La Oficina de Estadística del Departamento de Comercio y Trabajo de los Estados Unidas acaba de publicar una monografía intitulada "*Commercial America in 1906.*" Dicho trabajo dice que el valor total del comercio extranjero de todos los países americanos en el último año, acerca del cual se han podido obtener datos estadísticos, asciende á $5,500,000,000 en números redondos, de los $27,000,000,000, á que asciende el valor total del comercio internacional del mundo.

De este total de $5,500,000,000 de valor del comercio de toda la América, los Estados Unidos representan $3,000,000,000, y los demás países de América, incluyendo Las Antillas, representan $2,500,000,000.

Considerando separadamente el valor de las importaciones y exportaciones, el valor total de las importaciones de toda la América se fija en $2,250,000,000, en tanto que el de las exportaciones se fija en

$3,250,000,000. Del valor de las importaciones que asciende á $2,250,000,000, como la mitad lo representan los Estados Unidos y el de las exportaciones que asciende á $3,250,000,000, los Estados Unidos representan más de $1,750,000,000, y los otros países representan un poco menos de $1,500,000,000.

Tomando en consideración únicamente la América con excepción de los Estados Unidos, el valor de las importaciones en el último año acerca del cual se han obtenido datos estadísticos, ascendió á $1,118,000,000. El valor total de las exportaciones de todos los países americanos, excepción hecha de los Estados Unidos, ascendió á $1,402,000,000, de los cuales $407,000,000, ó sea un 36.5 por ciento, procedieron de los Estados Unidos. El valor total de las exportaciones de todos los países americanos, excepción hecha de los Estados Unidos, ascendió á $1,402,000,000, de los cuales $450,000,000, ó sea un 32.5 por ciento, fueron enviados á los Estados Unidos. Estas cifras que muestran la proporción del valor de las importaciones de los países americanos hechas de los Estados Unidos y de sus exportaciones á los Estados Unidos, resultan muy interesantes si se comparan con relaciones semejantes en años anteriores. Un análisis del comercio de los países americanos, hecho por la Oficina de Estadística en 1897, muestra que el valor total de las importaciones de todos ellos, excepción hecha de los Estados Unidos, y acerca de las cuales pudieron obtenerse datos estadísticos, ascendió á $652,000,000, contra $1,118,000,000, según lo demuestra la actual recopilación, y que un 26.57 por ciento del total de las importaciones de 1897 procedieron de los Estados Unidos, en tanto que un 36.5 por ciento del total grandemente aumentado de la presente época procede de los Estados Unidos. El valor de las exportaciones de los países americanos, excepto los Estados Unidos, en 1897 se fijo en $786,000,000, contra $1,402,000,000 que se consignan en la presente recopilación, habiéndose enviado á los Estados Unidos un 32.15 por ciento de las exportaciones que se hicieron en 1897, contra un 32.5 por ciento en la actualidad.

Hablando en términos generales puede decirse que los países americanos, con excepción de los Estados Unidos, considerados en conjunto, obtienen un poco más de una tercera parte (36.5 por ciento) de sus importaciones de los Estados Unidos, y envían al mismo un poco menos de una tercera parte de sus exportaciones.

Al establecerse una comparación de las condiciones del comercio de los varios países y regiones, sobre todo en relación con el comercio de los Estados Unidos, se nota que se hace una parte mucho mayor del comercio de los países de la América del Norte con los Estados Unidos que la que se hace con los países más distantes de Sur América, y que esta manifestación general podría incluír á los países de la América del Sur situados en el Mar Caribe, y relativamente cerca de los Estados Unidos. El valor total de las importa-

ciones de todos los países norteamericanos, excepción hecha de los Estados Unidos, según los datos estadísticos del último año que fué posible conseguir, ascendió á $594,000,000, de los cuales $334,000,000, ó sea un 56.3 por ciento, representaban importaciones de los Estados Unidos, en tanto que el valor total de las importaciones de los países de Sur América, ascendieron á $524,000,000, de los cuales sólo $73,000,000, ó sea un 13.8 por ciento, procedieron de los Estados Unidos. El valor total de las exportaciones que todos los países norteamericanos, con excepción de los Estados Unidos, en el último año del cual han podido conseguirse datos estadísticos, ascendió á $594,000,000, de los cuales $313,000,000, ó sea un 52.6 por ciento, se enviaron á los Estados Unidos, al paso que el valor total de las exportaciones de toda la América del Sur ascendió á $808,000,000, de los cuales $133,000,000, ó sea un 17.7 por ciento, se enviaron á los Estados Unidos.

En los países americanos en los cuales los centros comerciales están situados relativamente cerca de los Estados Unidos y que tienen buena comunicación con este último país, la proporción de su comercio que corresponde á los Estados Unidos es grande. Tratándose del Canadá, un 60.6 por ciento de las importaciones proceden de los Estados Unidos, y un 38.1 por ciento de las exportaciones se envían á esta última República. En 1906, México compró un 65.9 por ciento de sus importaciones á los Estados Unidos y le vendió un 68.6 por ciento de sus exportaciones.

Las Bahamas, situadas á una corta distancia de la costa de los Estados Unidos, en 1905, que es el último año acerca del cual ha sido posible obtener datos estadísticos, compraron un 61.2 por ciento de sus importaciones á los Estados Unidos, y enviaron á éstos un 71.3 por ciento de sus exportaciones. En 1906 Cuba le compró á los Estados Unidos un 48.6 por ciento de sus importaciones y envió á dicho país un 84.8 por ciento de sus exportaciones. Todos los Estados de Centro-América compran una gran parte de sus importaciones á los Estados Unidos y envían una gran proporción de sus exportaciones á este país. Por ejemplo, Honduras le compra á los Estados Unidos un 63 por ciento de sus importaciones y envía á dicho país un 87 por ciento de sus exportaciones; Nicaragua compra un 55 por ciento de sus importaciones á los Estados Unidos y envía un 50 por ciento de sus exportaciones á este país; Costa Rica compra un 55 por ciento de sus importaciones á los Estados Unidos y envía á dicho país un 47 por ciento de sus exportaciones, y Guatemala que le compra un 45 por ciento de sus importaciones á los Estados Unidos envía á este país un 35 por ciento de sus exportaciones. En 1905 Haití, que es el último año acerca del cual se han conseguido datos estadísticos, compró á los Estados Unidos un 71 por ciento de sus importaciones y envió á este país un 32 por ciento de sus exportaciones, al paso que en 1906 la República Dominicana

le compró á los Estados Unidos un 58.5 por ciento de sus importaciones y envió á este país un 57 por ciento de sus exportaciones.

La proporción del comercio de los países sudamericanos bañados por el Mar Caribe es bastante grande. En el último año, respecto del cual se han podido obtener datos estadísticos, Colombia le compró á los Estados Unidos un 44.5 por ciento de sus importaciones y envió á dicho país un 37 por ciento de sus exportaciones; en 1906 Venezuela le compró á los Estados Unidos un 30 por ciento de sus importaciones y envió á dicho país un 31 por ciento de sus exportaciones; la Guiana Británica le compró á los Estados Unidos un 30 por ciento de sus importaciones y envió á este país un 17 por ciento de sus exportaciones; la Guiana Holandesa le compró á los Estados Unidos un 21 por ciento de sus importaciones y envió á este país un 39 por ciento de sus exportaciones, en tanto que la proporción del comercio de la Guiana Francesa con los Estados Unidos es bastante pequeña, es decir, le compró á los Estados Unidos un 9 por ciento de sus importaciones y envió á este país un 1 por ciento de sus exportaciones, siendo así que la mayor parte del comercio de la Guiana Francesa, así como el de prácticamente todas las colonias francesas lo hacen la madre patria. Con referencia ahora á los países sudamericanos que quedan á una distancia mayor y á los cuales las mercancías pueden enviarse únicamente por rutas desviadas, la proporción de las importaciones hechas de los Estados Unidos, y en la mayor parte de los casos la proporción de las exportaciones á dicho país es mucho menor que la proporción de su comercio con los países sudamericanos bañados por el Mar Caribe. Un 11.5 por ciento de las importaciones que hace el Brasil proceden de los Estados Unidos; un 9.7 por ciento de las que hace el Uruguay proceden de los Estados Unidos; un 14 por ciento de las que hace la Argentina proceden de los Estados Unidos; un 10 por ciento de las que hace Chile proceden de los Estados Unidos, y un 16 por ciento de las que hace el Perú proceden también de los Estados Unidos, al paso que el Brasil envía un 35 por ciento del total de sus exportaciones á los Estados Unidos; el Uruguay le envía un 5.5 por ciento; la Argentina le envía un 5 por ciento; Chile le envía un 16 por ciento, y el Perú le envía un 9 por ciento.

CÓMO SE PREPARA EL CACAO EN DIFERENTES PAÍSES.

[Extractos tomados de un trabajo escrito por Ivor Etherington.]

En la industria del cacao el procedimiento más importante lo constituye la fermentación y curación del fruto, puesto que de ello depende, en gran manera, la calidad y precio de este producto. En los varios países donde se cultiva el cacao se emplean diversos métodos para su tratamiento.

Durante la recogida del cacao maduro el fruto se hacina en grandes montones en un sitio adecuado de la plantación, ó bien se lleva á un tinglado ó depósito cerca de la fábrica para desgranarlo. Entonces el pericarpio, ó cápsula que contiene el fruto, se corta con un cuchillo y las pepitas, junto con la pulpa que las rodea, se echan en espuertas. Cuando en una sola finca se cultiva más de una clase de cacao, el fruto de las diversas especies debe conservarse separado para los fines de la fermentación y curación.

El objeto de la fermentación es sacar la pulpa sacarina que rodea las pepitas, mejorar el color del cacao, dar á la pepita más condición para los fines de la trituración, endurecer la cáscara del grano, mejorar el gusto ó sabor del fruto, y, por último, evitar el moho. Debe agregarse que la fermentación de las pepitas no es indispensable. El cacao de color morado obscuro y que tiene un sabor amargo, sin fermentar es el que tiene mayor demanda en algunos mercados. Sin embargo, algunos de los cacaos mejores que se conocen están más ó menos fermentados. En Ceilán efectúan por completo la fermentación.

En síntesis la fermentación es el procedimiento de condimentar el cacao con su propio jugo. En Nicaragua la fermentación se hace en dos ó tres días, en tanto que en Guatemala y El Salvador se invierte la mitad de este tiempo. En Surinam se emplean seis ó siete días para dicho tratamiento, y debido á este hecho se obtiene un producto superior que ha llegado á hacerse famoso. En Venezuela la fermentación se hace en sacos que se ponen al sol durante el día y se dejan trasudar durante la noche, al paso que en México se cavan hoyos en el suelo y en ellos se fermenta el cacao cubirendo los hoyos con hojas de plátano. En la Isla de Trinidad hay muchos cultivadores que no fermentan el cacao, pero ya empiezan á adoptar este tratamiento.

La fermentación puede efectuarse al aire libre, en una casa ó sotechado ó en cajas ó tanques especiales. Sin embargo, puede prescindirse de estos métodos y llevarse á cabo la fermentación amontonando el fruto. Á fin de que todo el montón de fruto se fermente de una manera uniforme, las pepitas deberán revolverse diariamente y cubrirse otra vez para continuar la operación. El calor de la masa aumenta gradualmente, y no debe permitirse que sea excesivo porque puede dañar la calidad del producto. Una temperatura de 35° á 40° C. puede tomarse como promedio, para los fines de la fermentación.

Después del procedimiento de la fermentación el cacao debe lavarse para separar las pepitas de la pulpa. El lavado se hace con mayor eficacia en los lugares donde puede utilizarse la corriente de un arroyo, y también pueden utilizarse los tanques de agua y en otros casos puede emplearse la maquinaria para separar las pepitas

y obtener un fruto completamente limpio. Los mercados americanos no exigen que el cacao se haya lavado, pero en Alemania é Inglaterra prefieren el grano limpio. En Nicaragua no se lava el cacao, pero en El Salvador y Guatemala dicho procedimiento se adopta en algunos casos. Dícese que el delicado aroma del cacao de la América Central se lo da el procedimiento del lavado que allí se emplea.

Efectúese ó no el lavado, las pepitas deben secarse después de la fermentación. Lá desecación es en realidad una curación y debe hacerse con el mayor esmero, mediante el calor natural del sol ó el calor artificial, en casas construídas especialmente con este objeto que tengan departamentos ó cámaras calientes. La curación hace que la pepita adquiera un colar moreno ó achocolatado, el cual varía según la clase de cacao y las condiciones de la localidad. En todos los casos la desecación debe ser lenta y durar por lo menos de tres ó cuatro días, según la magnitud de la fermentación á que se hayan sometido las pepitas. La curación es muy importante en la preparación del cacao, y siempre debe llevarse á cabo con mucho cuidado é inteligencia. Las pepitas curadas se clasifican según el tamaño, calidad, apariencia y buen color del fruto. La pepita de color claro tiene mejor sabor, pero la de color obscuro tiene mucha demanda en algunos mercados.

En algunos países emplean métodos especiales con el fin de darle el debido lustre y coloración á este producto. Por ejemplo, en Venezuela emplean tierra roja; en la India Occidental emplean varias substancias, tales como almidón, achiote, almagre y tierra ó barro rojo. Cuando el grano tiene el lustre suficiente se coloca en sacos y se envía al mercado.

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TRECHO DA BAHIA DO RIO DE JANEIRO ONDE FUNDEOU A ESQUADRA AMERICANA, MOSTRANDO A LINDA AVENIDA BEIRA MAR.

Section of Rio de Janeiro where the United States fleet recently stopped, showing the beautiful boulevard and the crescent of the bay.

Boletim Mensal

DA

Secretaria Internacional das Republicas Americanas,

União Internacional das Republicas Americanas.

Vol. XXVI. JANEIRO de 1908. No. 1.

(Muitos dos assumptos commentados na secção editorial portugueza do Boletim, são publicados sómente em inglez ou hespanhol.)

Tal foi a sinceridade e a cordialidade das manifestações com que o Governo e o povo do Brazil receberam a esquadra dos Estados Unidos quando entrou no porto do Rio de Janeiro em 12 de janeiro, e tantas attenções lhe foram dispensadas durante os dez dias que alli estiveram, que a officialidade e os marinheiros jamais poderão esquecel-as. Na historia das viagens da esquadra norte-americana a paizes estrangeiros, jamais paiz algum excedeu o Brazil nos esforços que fez para mostrar sua apreciação pela presença da esquadra em suas aguas. A julgar pelas noticias que temos recebido, parece que a recepção que será feita á officialidade pelo Governo e povo do Peru em Callão e Lima, terá o mesmo cunho de sinceridade e magnificencia que a que lhes foi feita no Rio. Comquanto Punta Arenas, que é o unico ponto do territorio chileno em que a frota tocará, esteja muito distante de Santiago, sua capital e principal porto, o Governo chileno está dando os passos precisos para acolher a frota de uma maneira tal que nunca será esquecida a sua passagem pelas aguas chilenas.

A presença nas aguas da America do Sul dos navios de guerra dos Estados Unidos, em sua viagem ao Pacifico, muito contribuirá para despertar mais o interesse do povo norte-americano pelas Republicas Latino-Americanas. Chegam a esta Secretaria grande numero de cartas, vindas não só de periodicos e revistas, mas tambem de particulares, pedindo informações a respeito dos paizes e portos em que tocará a esquadra na sua notavel viagem. Por exemplo, a Secretaria

ministrou a umas centenas de jornaes dados sobre as cidades do Rio de Janeiro, Punta Arenas e Calláo, de modo que estarão habilitados a publicar artigos descriptivos destes pontos para seus leitores. A este respeito, deve-se dizer que antes da frota partir, a Secretaria enviou aos officiaes de cada navio um jogo completo das publicações da Secretaria sobre a America Latina, afim de que, na sua viagem pelo continente meridional, podessem obter maior numero de conhecimentos a respeito desse continente. A attenção da Secretaria foi muito apreciada conforme attestam as numerosas cartas que temos recebido dos officiaes.

A PROXIMA CONFERENCIA PAN-AMERICANA.

Na reunião do Conselho Director da Secretaria que teve logar em 8 de janeiro, foi apresentada uma moção determinando que a proxima Conferencia Internacional Pan-Americana se realizasse em Buenos Aires em 1910. Resolveu-se deixar a consideração da moção para a proxima reunião do Conselho, que terá logar em 5 de janeiro, afim de permittir que os differentes membros do Conselho se communicassem com seus respectivos Governos sobre a materia. No encerramento da Conferencia do Rio, ficou geralmente entendido que a proxima Conferencia se realizasse na cidade de Buenos Aires, porém, o Conselho Director da Secretaria foi incumbido de designar definitivamente o logar e a data da Conferencia. O anno de 1910 foi fixado para a realização da Conferencia, em vez de 1911 ou 1912, porque naquelle anno a Republica Argentina celebrará uma grande exposição commemorativa do centenario da sua Independencia. Em vista do grande progresso, tanto politico como commercial, que a America-Latina está actualmente fazendo, e das relações mais estreitas existentes entre os Estados Unidos e suas irmãs, a Quarta Conferencia Pan-Americana terá de discutir muitos assumptos de interesse a todas as Republicas Americanas, e influirá poderosamente em suas futuras relações.

EXPOSIÇÕES NA AMERICA DO SUL.

O Boletim já chamou a attenção dos leitores para a exposição que o Governo do Brazil tenciona realizar no Rio de Janeiro no proximo verão, e para a que o Governo Argentino celebrará em Buenos Aires em 1910. Agora o Governo do Equador annuncia que realizará uma exposição em Quito em 1909, e já convidou o Governo dos Estados Unidos a participar nella. Afim de poder acceitar este convite, o Presidente Roosevelt apresentou ao Congresso Nacional uma mensagem recommendando que seja votada uma somma especial para este fim. As nações estrangeiras não serão convidadas a

tomarem parte nas exposições do Brazil e da Republica Argentina, ainda que seus fabricantes e negociantes possam obter permissão a expôr seus productos sob condições especiaes. Como o Governo dos Estados Unidos foi especialmente convidado a tomar parte na exposição do Equador, é de esperar-se que o Congresso vote os fundos necessarios para a construcção de um edificio adequado e a organização de uma exhibição representativa. Dentro de pouco tempo estará concluida a estrada de ferro de Guayaquil a Quito, de modo que os passageiros poderão fazer a viagem do porto de Guayaquil a Quito, o logar da exposição, em vinte e quatro horas, por uma linha ferrea que, por suas difficeis obras de engenharia e o pittoresco da região que atravessa, é uma das maravilhas do mundo. A cidade de Quito é uma das mais interessantes da America do Sul, e goza de um bom clima. Por estar a cerca de 10,000 pés acima do nivel do mar, não é excessivamente quente como nas regiões tropicaes mais baixas, e sua proximidade ao equador a protege contra o rigoroso frio. Por occasião da exposição, a viagem de New York a Quito poderá ser feita em menos de dez dias, e é de esperar-se que grande numero de pessoas dos Estados Unidos comparecerão a este certamen.

A SECRETARIA NA TERCEIRA CONFERENCIA SANITARIA INTERNACIONAL.

Publicamos neste numero do BOLETIM o relatorio do Secretario FRANCISCO J. YÁNES, nosso delegado á Convenção Sanitaria Internacional que se reuniu na cidade de Mexico em dezembro de 1907, o qual demonstra a parte activa que a Secretaria tomou neste congresso. Elle faz menção especial do progresso que se tem feito no Mexico em condições hygienicas modernas e do crescente interesse despertado nos trabalhos da Secretaria Pan-Americana em Washington.

MELHORAMENTO DO SERVIÇO DE VAPORES COM A AMERICA DO SUL.

A Companhia de Vapores Lamport e Holt merece ser congratulada por causa dos melhoramentos que está fazendo no seu serviço entre New York e Rio de Janeiro e Buenos Aires. O serviço resentia-se pela falta de boas accommodações para passageiros de 1ª classe nos vapores que faziam a carreira entre portos dos Estados Unidos e os da costa oriental da America do Sul. A Companhia acaba de adquirir para esta linha tres novos vapores, de 9,000 toneladas cada um, com boas accommodações para 150 passageiros de 1ª classe, e 50 passageiros de 2ª e 3ª classes. Todos esses navios são novos, e o primeiro a fazer a viagem foi o *Verdi*. Para commemorar sua chegada a New York, foi offerecido um jantar a bordo em 14 de

janeiro, sendo os convivas pessoas de New York e de outras partes do paiz que se interessam pelo desenvolvimento das relações commerciaes com a America do Sul. Todos os que visitaram o vapor manifestaram a boa impressão que lhes causou, e o desejo que tinham de emprehender immediatamente uma viagem á America do Sul. É de esperar-se que todos os viajantes dos Estados Unidos que até agora têm hesitado em visitar a America do Sul, por causa das más accommodações, estejam agora decididos a emprehender esta viagem. Por outro lado, espera-se que um maior numero de representantes sul-americanos animem-se a visitar os Estados Unidos. Não ha melhor meio de promover relações de amizade entre os differentes paizes que as visitas mutuas.

OUTRA EXPRESSÃO DE INTERESSE POR PARTE DO PRESIDENTE ROOSEVELT.

Todos quantos se interessam em promover relações mais estreitas entre os Estados Unidos e a America Latina ficaram muito satisfeitos por motivo das lisonjeiras referencias á Secretaria Internacional que o Presidente ROOSEVELT fez em sua mensagem e que foram reproduzidas na ultima edição do BOLETIM. Agora temos que noticiar a carta que, ha pouco, o Presidente ROOSEVELT dirigiu ao Professor L. S. ROWE, da Universidade de Pennsylvania, em que aponta os beneficios que hão de resultar de relações intellectuaes mais intimas entre a America do Norte e a do Sul, e exprime seu vivo interesse por planos que se estão elaborando neste sentido. Reproduzimos a carta do Presidente em outra secção do BOLETIM.

A PROXIMA CONFERENCIA DO LAGO DE MOHONK.

O Sr. H. C. PHILLIPS, Secretario da Conferencia do Lago de Mohonk sobre o arbitramento internacional, informa a Secretaria que a Conferencia de 1908 será realizada nos dias 20, 21 e 22 de maio, e que se occupará especialmente de assumptos pan-americanos. Deseja que a Secretaria e o Conselho Director desta instituição tomem especial interesse por esta Conferencia, e que tomem parte activa em suas deliberações. Em sua communicação diz: "Creio que não erro dizendo que o interesse despertado pela sessão pan-americana do anno passado tem sido de grande valor em promover o principio geral de arbitramento, e que uma sessão semelhante nesta Conferencia terá resultados ainda mais efficazes.

BUREAU DE INFORMAÇÃO DA COLOMBIA.

O Presidente REYES da Colombia e o Ministro das Relações Exteriores, o Sr. A. VASQUEZ COBO, têm dado mais um passo afim de tornar mais conhecida a Republica da Colombia no exterior, estabelecendo em Bogotá um Bureau Central de Informação, com agencias em Londres, Paris, Bruxellas, Hamburgo, Barcelona e New York. A essas agencias deverão ser fornecidos jornaes e publicações officiaes de interesse publico, contendo informações sobre a Colombia e as opportunidades que ha neste paiz para o emprego de capitaes estrangeiros. Este Bureau estará em communicação directa com a Secretaria Internacional das Republicas Americanas em Washington, e o Ministro pede a cooperação dessa instituição, quanto possivel, neste importante trabalho de propaganda.

CONDIÇÕES COMMERCIAES NA COLOMBIA.

O relatorio sobre as condições commerciaes da Colombia, preparado pelo Sr. CHARLES M. PEPPER, agente especial do Departamento do Commercio e Trabalho, que foi recentemente publicado pela secção de manufacturas, é muito opportuno. O relatorio faz um estudo cuidadoso das condições do commercio, dos recursos naturaes e as opportunidades para o emprego de capitaes na Colombia. Antes de preparar este relatorio, o Sr. PEPPER fez uma visita á Colombia e estudou demoradamente suas condições. Está actualmente fazendo investigações no Equador, Peru e outros paizes da America do Sul, com o mesmo fim.

ASSOCIAÇÃO NACIONAL DE MANUFACTUREIROS.

A Associação Nacional de Manufactureiros que tem sua sede em New York, rua Broadway n. 170, e cujo presidente é o Sr. JAMES W. VAN CLEAVE, de St. Louis, Estado de Missouri, está desenvolvendo um importante ramo subordinado a esta Associação. A "American Industries," em sua edição de dezembro, descreve um plano desta Associação para fornecer a seus membros informações de todo genero sobre as condições commerciaes de paizes estrangeiros. Ao mesmo tempo, lembra o facto de que a Associação fornece gratuitamente a negociantes estrangeiros as informações que pedem sobre assumptos commerciaes e industriaes. Si um exportador ou negociante da America do Sul desejar emprehender negocios nos Estados Unidos, poderá dirigir-se á Associação Nacional de Manufactureiros pedindo informações quanto ás firmas com que deverá ter relações commerciaes. Isto será de grande beneficio para augmentar o commercio entre os Estados Unidos e suas irmãs do Sul. A Secretaria deseja

exprimir aqui o seu reconhecimento á Associação por sua cooperação em promover o commercio pan-americano, e, em troca, terá prazer em ministrar informações aos seus membros que estejam contemplando entrar em directo contacto com a America Latina.

ESTATISTICAS COMMERCIAES ARGENTINAS.

Pelos dados estatisticos do commercio exterior da Republica Argentina nos nove mezes de janeiro a setembro de 1907, vê-se que a importação foi no valor de $202,835,218, e a exportação, no de $240,878,611, do que resulta um balanço commercial a favor da Republica de $38,043,393. Comparando-se o commercio exterior com o do periodo correspondente do anno anterior, verifica-se um augmento na importação de $5,519,704, e de $16,247,350, na exportação.

Que a agricultura vae-se desenvolvendo na Republica, prova-o a relação official da area em cultivo em 1907, que demonstra ter havido um augmento na area semeada de trigo, linho e aveia. As medidas adoptadas para o prompto despacho dos productos nacionaes estão em linha com o espirito geral de progresso que prevalece no paiz, ao passo que a nova lei, concedendo isenção de direitos de importação, pelo prazo de dez annos, ás machinas e utensilios de todas as classes destinados aos estabelecimentos mineiros e metallurgicos, faz prever uma maior actividade neste ramo da vida industrial.

BALANÇO COMMERCIAL DO BRAZIL.

Apezar da diminuição verificada nos valores dos dous principaes artigos exportados—café e borracha—nos mezes de agosto e setembro de 1907, o resultado do movimento commercial nos primeiros nove mezes de 1907 mostra um balanço a favor da Republica de $63,000,000, comparado com $53,000,000, em egual periodo do anno anterior. O movimento da importação foi no valor de $147,000,000, e o da exportação, no de $210,000,000, verificando-se assim um augmento tanto na importação como na exportação, comparadas com as do mesmo periodo do anno anterior. As machinas e materiaes para obras publicas continuaram a ser importados em avultada quantidade até o fim do anno.

Uma medida de grande alcance para o fomento das industrias nacionaes foi o decreto autorizando o Governo a crear um banco agricola, com o capital de $10,000,000. Este banco facilitará o desenvolvimento da agricultura, fornecendo o capital e credito ás emprezas que derem garantias.

Mais um impulso será dado á industria agricola com o estabelecimento de colonos japonezes nos Estados do Rio de Janeiro e São Paulo. Os contractos para a introducção de immigrantes já foram celebrados entre as autoridades desses Estados e a companhia interessada.

NOVO MINISTRO DO CHILE JUNTO AO GOVERNO DOS ESTADOS UNIDOS.

Ao dar as boas vindas ao Sr. ANIBAL CRUZ, novo Ministro do Chile acreditado aos Estados Unidos, a Secretaria Pan-Americana deseja salientar os valiosos serviços prestados pelo seu predecessor, o Sr. WALKER-MARTÍNEZ, que agora representa o Departamento de Santiago no Congresso Nacional do Chile. O Sr. CRUZ, ao apresentar suas credenciaes ao Presidente dos Estados Unidos no dia 16 de novembro de 1907, disse que foi empenho do seu Governo manter as boas relações que felizmente existem entre os dous paizes, retribuindo plenamente a esses sentimentos o Presidente ROOSEVELT em sua resposta.

Si o projecto de lei que o Presidente apresentou ao Congresso em 25 de outubro de 1907, fôr votado, a cultura do linho será protegida com um premio governamental. No referido projecto, está consignada a somma de $450,000,000 para ser distribuida em premios sobre o linho que fôr produzido, manufacturado e exportado na Republica durante o periodo de doze annos.

O estado satisfactorio do commercio do paiz é evidenciado do facto de que as rendas arrecadadas pelas diversas alfandegas do paiz nos primeiros nove mezes de 1907, importaram em $26,000,000, o que mostra um augmento de mais de $3,000,000, comparadas com as de egual periodo do anno anterior.

INDUSTRIAS NACIONAES E MODIFICAÇÕES NA TARIFA DA COLOMBIA.

Reproduzimos neste numero do BOLETIM as valiosas informações sobre a cultura da borracha e a manufactura de algodão na Colombia, extrahidas do relatorio que o Sr. I. A. MANNING, Consul dos Estados Unidos em Cartagena, dirigiu ao seu Governo. O desenvolvimento da cultura da borracha no paiz é evidenciado do facto de que a quantidade de borracha exportada pelo porto de Cartagena durante o anno de 1906, foi de 159,580 kilos, ao passo que nos primeiros nove mezes de 1907, foram exportados 136,680 kilos. Não só se está cultivando a borracha em vastas plantações, mas medidas estão sendo adoptadas para impedir a destruição das arvores silvestres.

Publicamos tambem varias modificações da tarifa da Colombia, feitas durante o anno de 1907.

ENVIADO DE COSTA RICA EM MISSÂO ESPECIAL AOS ESTADOS UNIDOS.

Além de exercer as funcções de delegado de Costa Rica á Conferencia de Paz da America Central, o Sr. LUIS ANDERSON teve a honra de ser nomeado como Enviado Extraordinario e Ministro Plenipotenciario em Missão Especial aos Estados Unidos. Foi recebido pelo Presidente ROOSEVELT nesta capacidade em 12 de novembro de 1907, e apresentou-lhe as cordiaes saudações do Presidente GONZALEZ VIQUEZ, assim como do Governo e do povo de Costa Rica.

Um decreto promulgado pelo Presidente em 2 de dezembro de 1907, autoriza a creação de juntas especiaes de agricultura nos diversos departamentos de Costa Rica, com o fim de promover o desenvolvimento da agricultura no paiz, fazendo que os outros productos nacionaes sejam tão uteis para o paiz como a industria de bananas.

Com respeito a esta industria, o Ministro dos Estados Unidos no Chile, informa que, por não terem approvado os cultivadores e exportadores o direito de exportação de 1 por cento sobre cada cacho de bananas, cobrado em virtude de uma lei recente, cuja execução foi dependente desta approvação, a industria fica no mesmo estado em que era antes da decretação da lei.

O RESULTADO DO RECENSEAMENTO DE CUBA.

O recenseamento da população da Republica de Cuba feito em 1907, dá 2,28,283 habitantes, contra 1,572,845 habitantes em 1899, sendo as provincias de Havana e Santa Clara as mais povoadas. O movimento immigratorio no exercicio de 1906–7, accusa uma diminuição de 23,080 immigrantes, comparado com o do anno anterior.

As rendas arrecadadas pela alfandega de Havana no anno de 1907, sommaram $20,005,048.12, sendo $1,500,000 mais que no anno anterior. Foram adoptadas medidas para o saneamento de diversas municipalidades, e uma verba de $350,000 foi votada para ser empregada em medidas contra a febre amarella.

EXPOSIÇÃO NACIONAL DO EQUADOR.

Uma exposição nacional será realizada em Quito, em agosto de 1909, para commemorar o primeiro centenario da lucta pela independencia na America do Sul. O decreto estabelecendo as bases para a organização desta exposição foi promulgado pelo Presidente ALFARO em outubro de 1907. A exposição abrangerá exhibições mostrando os recursos florestaes, pastoris, agricolas e mineiros do paiz, assim como a viação ferrea e a industria da pesca. Haverá nella secções historicas e de artes de interesse internacional. As nações estrangeiras serão convidadas a participarem na exposição.

COMMERCIO E CONDIÇÕES ECONOMICAS EM GUATEMALA.

Com relação á estrada de ferro interoceanica de San José no Pacifico até Puerto Barrios no Atlantico, que foi aberta ao trafego em 19° de janeiro de 1908, é de grande interesse o pamphleto ultimamente publicado pelo Sr. VICTOR AGUILAR PELÁEZ, Consul da Republica em Liverpool e Manchester. Devido ao grande interesse despertado por esta parte da America Central, reproduzimos neste numero do BOLETIM a parte do pamphleto que trata do commercio e das condições economicas em 1906.

A chegada á capital do primeiro trem vindo de Puerto Barrios foi a occasião de uma grande demonstração, e para commemorar a occasião foi realizada uma exposição de industrias nacionaes. As nações estrangeiras mandaram representantes especiaes para tomarem parte nas cerimonias. Essa estrada de ferro, com uma extensão de 269 milhas, facilitará enormemente o transporte dos productos nacionaes para o mar, e é uma prova evidente do desenvolvimento desta progressiva Republica.

ESTABELECIMENTO DE UMA JUNTA COMMERCIAL EM HAITI.

Em virtude do decreto de 30 de novembro de 1907, foi estabelecida uma Junta Commercial em Port-au-Prince, com o fim de promover os interesses commerciaes, agricolas, industriaes e maritimos da Republica. Foi votada a somma de $1,800 para occorrer ás despezas de organização, e o Presidente da Republica foi designado como presidente honorario da mesma. A associação não só diffundirá informações relativas aos productos nacionaes e industrias, mas servirá tambem como intermediario para a distribuição no paiz de informes de valor sobre os paizes estrangeiros.

AUGMENTO DO IMPOSTO DE EXPORTAÇÃO SOBRE BANANAS EM HONDURAS.

O Governo augmentou o direito de exportação sobre bananas de dous a tres centavos por cacho, cujo producto será applicado a obras de melhoramento dos portos septentrionaes da Republica, assim dotando-os de melhores facilidades para a exportação de bananas.

MEXICO COMO VISTO POR SEU MINISTRO DA FAZENDA.

O relatorio annual do Sr. Licenciado JOSÉ YVES LIMANTOUR, o illustre Ministro da Fazenda da Republica do Mexico, em que dá uma revista do estado economico do paiz, constitue uma epocha nos annaes mexicanos. O relatorio que apresentou ao Congresso Nacional

em 14 de dezembro de 1907 deve ser lido por todos aquelles que desejam obter mais exacto conhecimento dos negocios mexicanos. Publicamos neste numero do BOLETIM um resumo do relatorio que mostra as condições muito lisonjeiras desta importante parte da União Pan-Americana.

As estatisticas do commercio no primeiro trimestre do exercicio de 1907–8, mostram um augmento de mais de $5,000,000, tanto na importação como na exportação da Republica. Este resultado é muito satisfactorio, pois no periodo correspondente dos dous exercicios anteriores, houve diminuição na exportação.

As pessoas que têm empenho em promover o trafico pelo Isthmo, tomam grande interesse pelas obras de melhoramento em construcção e em projecto nos pontos terminaes da Estrada de Ferro de Tehuantepec. É a intenção do Governo dotar os portos de Salina Cruz e Coatzocoalcos de melhoramentos, de modo que figurem entre os principaes portos commerciaes do mundo.

MENSAGEM DO PRESIDENTE DE NICARAGUA.

A mensagem que o Presidente ZELAYA apresentou ao Congresso Nacional em 1° de dezembro de 1907, é um documento importante em que dá a historia e resultados da Conferencia de Paz reunida recentemente em Washington.

A concessão feita pelo Governo aos Srs. GUERRERO e MOREIRA para a exploração das florestas de borracha da Republica, pelo prazo de dez annos, foi transferida a "The Atlantic Industrial Company."

A nova lei de marcas de fabrica e de commercio que foi promulgada em 26 de novembro de 1907, visa a protecção das industrias nacionaes e estrangeiras.

RELATORIO APRESENTADO PELO CONSUL DOS ESTADOS UNIDOS EM COLON, PANAMÁ.

Segundo o relatorio que o Sr. JAMES C. KELLOGG, Consul dos Estados Unidos em Colon, dirigiu ao seu Governo sobre o movimento commercial do porto de Bocas del Toro, as importações effectuadas por este porto no exercicio de 1907 augmentaram, ao passo que as exportações no mesmo periodo diminuiram. Espera-se que, com a exportação de bananas para a Europa, para o que os vapores estão sendo equipados com camaras frigorificas, o movimento commercial no corrente exercicio dará outro resultado. Os Estados Unidos occupam o primeiro logar no commercio deste porto.

UM BANCO NACIONAL NO PARAGUAY.

Foi apresentado ao Congresso do Paraguay um projecto de lei autorizando a creação de um banco, com o capital de $20,000,000, ouro, e a denominação de Banco da Republica. As condições sob as quaes funccionará, são publicadas neste numero do BOLETIM.

NOVO SERVIÇO DE NAVEGAÇÃO A VAPOR ENTRE NEW YORK E CALLÁO.

Com a inauguração do novo serviço de vapores entre New York e Callão, por via de Panamá, será dado um grande passo no desenvolvimento do commercio entre as duas secções. Esta linha está sob a administração da Companhia Nacional de Vapores e Doca Fluctuante de Callão, e espera-se que esteja em operação em principios de 1908. Além de ter um capital de $15,000,000, a linha receberá do Governo do Peru uma subvenção de $1,500,000.

RENDAS ADUANEIRAS DE SALVADOR.

Segundo os dados estatisticos mais recentes, as rendas arrecadadas pelas alfandegas da Republica no primeiro trimestre de 1907, foram na importancia de $543,624.72, o que mostra uma diminuição de $145,904.42, comparadas com as de egual periodo do anno anterior.

RENDAS ADUANEIRAS DO URUGUAY.

Ainda que as rendas aduaneiras do Uruguay arrecadadas no mez de outubro de 1907, mostram uma pequena diminuição, em confronto com as do mez correspondente de 1906, as rendas totaes arrecadadas nos dez mezes findos em outubro, accusam um augmento, sendo de $11,271,871, contra $11,006,639, em egual periodo do anno anterior.

A lei de impostos para 1908, como foi submettida pelo poder legislativo, contem varias modificações de importancia. Em virtude de uma das suas disposições, o imposto a que estão sujeitos os premios de companhias estrangeiras de seguro funccionando no paiz, é augmentado de 3 a 7 por cento.

AUGMENTO NOS DIREITOS DE IMPORTAÇÃO DE VENEZUELA.

O Governo de Venezuela promulgou um decreto em 14 de novembro de 1907, estabelecendo um imposto addicional sobre diversos productos alimenticios e de uso domestico.

PRIMEIRO CONGRESSO SCIENTIFICO PAN-AMERICANO.

O Primeiro Congresso Scientifico Latino-Americano realizou-se em Buenos Aires, capital da Republica Argentina, em 1908. A segunda sessão do Congresso teve lugar em Montevidéo, capital da Republica Oriental do Uruguay, em 1901, e o Terceiro Congresso reuniu-se no Rio de Janeiro, capital do Brazil, em 1905.

Agora ficou determinado que o Quarto Congresso se realizasse em Santiago durante os primeiros dez dias de dezembro de 1908, e o governo do Chile já expediu convites nesse sentido.

Foi resolvido tambem ampliar o escopo do Congresso, de forma que abranja todas as Republicas Americanas e para isso o governo do Chile fez um convite official ao governo dos Estados Unidos. Alterou-se a denominação do Congresso. Em vez de Quarto Congresso Scientifico Latino-Americano, será denominado o Primeiro Congresso Scientifico Pan-Americano, denominação essa que está mais de accordo com sua ampliada representação.

O Presidente ROOSEVELT, na mensagem com que apresentou ao Congresso o relatorio do Secretario ROOT sobre o assumpto, recommenda que o Congresso vote uma verba sufficiente para a devida representação dos Estados Unidos.

A ESQUADRA AMERICANA NO RIO DE JANEIRO.

Em vista do interesse geral que tem despertado a presença da esquadra americana em aguas brazileiras e da importancia dos discursos pronunciados por essa occasião e dos telegrammas trocados entre os Governos do Brazil e dos Estados Unidos, transcrevemos alguns delles para as nossas columnas.

O Embaixador do Brazil em Washington recebeu do Barão RIO BRANCO, Ministro das Relações Exteriores do Brazil, o seguinte telegramma, annunciando a chegada da esquadra ao Rio de Janeiro em 13 de janeiro:

"Os preparativos dos festejos principiaram no momento em que se viu fluctuando do Palacio de Monroe, onde se realizou a Conferencia Pan-Americana, a bandeira brazileira rodeada por quatro bandeiras americanas."

Mais tarde foram trocados entre os Governos do Brazil e dos Estados Unidos telegrammas de cortezia.

No dia 14 de janeiro, o Presidente AFFONSO PENNA do Brazil enviou o seguinte telegramma ao Presidente dos Estados Unidos:

"Tive esta tarde o grande contentamento de receber e ficar conhecendo pessoalmente os Almirantes e Commandantes da frota americana em viagem para o Oceano Pacifico. Congratulo-me comvosco pela feliz chegada dessa tão poderosa e bem exercitada frota ao Rio de Janeiro, e tenho vivo prazer em informar-vos de que a população de nossa capital se associou espontanea e calorosamente, desde o primeiro momento, ás autoridades navaes brazileiras nas demonstrações de fraternal amizade aos marinheiros americanos e á grande Republica do Norte, por cuja constante prosperidade e gloria o Brazil inteiro faz os mais cordeaes votos.

"AFFONSO PENNA."

O Presidente ROOSEVELT enviou ao Presidente AFFONSO PENNA o seguinte telegramma em resposta:

"15 de JANEIRO DE 1908.

"Agradeço-vos a bondosa communicação que me fizestes por occasião da chegada da esquadra americana ao Rio de Janeiro. Causou-me e ha de causar ao povo americano a mais viva satisfacção. Nós todos nos confessamos profundamente reconhecidos pelas distinctas attenções e hospitalidade com que o Governo e o povo do Brazil receberam nossos officiaes e marinheiros. Os navios de guerra americanos não existem para outro fim senão o de proteger a paz contra a possivel oppressão, e a justiça contra a possivel oppressão. Entre os Estados Unidos e o Brazil esses navios não são navios de guerra, mas sim mensageiros de amizade e boa vontade, incumbidos de celebrar junto de vós as relações de amizade e auxilio mutuo, existentes desde ha longos annos e que nunca hão de ser quebradas, entre as duas grandes Republicas."

BRINDE DO PRESIDENTE AFFONSO PENNA.

Por occasião do lunch que o Governo do Brazil offereceu á officialidade da esquadra americana, em 15 de janeiro, o Presidente AFFONSO PENNA fez o seguinte brinde:

"O acolhimento caloroso e fraternal que o povo da capital da Republica tem feito á poderosa esquadra americana ora entre nós deve ter demonstrado a todos quanto são profundas e sinceras a sympatha e a amizade que animam a nação brazileira para com a sua grande e prospera irman da America do Norte. Não se trata de sentimentos ephemeros e passageiros, pois datam do berço da nossa nacionalidade e vem crescendo sempre, estreitando-se cada vez mais os laços de amizade e as relações economicas entre as duas nações.

"Quando os povos sul-americanos proclamaram a sua independencia, nesse momento cheio de duvidas e vacillações quanto ao seu futuro, não lhes faltou a animação da joven Republica Americana, declarando solemnemente a indestructivel solidariedade entre os povos do Novo Mundo pela voz do seu grande Presidente MONROE,

cujo nome figura na historia de modo brilhante como de estadista de largo descortino e de rara presciencia politica.

"O longo e difficil cruzeiro da poderosa esquadra que o Brazil hoje hospeda, contornando o continente americano em toda a sua extensão, constitue nova e magnifica demonstração do inexcedivel vigor e da extraordinaria energia do grande povo amigo.

"Brindo pela gloriosa marinha americana, pela prosperidade da Republica dos Estados Unidos da America, pela felicidade pessoal do seu eminente chefe, o grande estadista, Senhor THEODORE ROOSEVELT."

Os seguintes telegrammas foram tambem trocados entre o Departamento de Estado dos Estados Unidos e o Embaixador Americano junto ao Governo do Brazil:

O EMBAIXADOR AMERICANO NO BRAZIL AO SECRETARIO ROOT.

15 de JANEIRO DE 1908.

Recepção da esquadra pela imprensa e povo motivo de grande satisfacção. Manifestações cordiaes para com os Estados Unidos por toda a parte. Presidente do Brazil recebe com ardor os officiaes e offerece-lhes jantar. As bandeiras brazileira e americana fluctuam juntas sobre o Palacio Monroe, aonde no dia 20 o Barão RIO BRANCO offerece banquete á officialidade da esquadra, 600 talheres, sendo RUY BARBOSA orador official.

SECRETARIO ROOT AO EMBAIXADOR AMERICANO NO BRAZIL.

15 DE JANEIRO DE 1908.

Peço-vos que apresenteis ao Barão RIO BRANCO os meus sinceros agradecimentos e os do Governo americano pela cordial hospitalidade com que o Presidente e o Governo do Brazil estão recebendo a esquadra americana. É muito agradavel saber que a mesma amizade que me foi tão generosamente dispensada em 1906, não foi abalada conforme mostra a recepção aos meus patricios. O povo americano ficará muito agradecido pelas cordeaes attenções que estão sendo dispensadas aos seus marinheiros. Minhas cordeaes recommendações pessoaes ao Barão de RIO BRANCO. O Presidente ROOSEVELT já telegraphou directamente ao Presidente PENNA.

CARTA SIGNIFICATIVA DO PRESIDENTE ROOSEVELT.

O Professor L. S. ROWE, da Universidade de Pennsylvania, que foi um dos delegados dos Estados Unidos á Terceira Conferencia Internacional Americana reunida no Rio de Janeiro em julho de 1906, fez, após o encerramento da Conferencia, uma extensa viagem pelos paizes da America do Sul que durou um anno e meio.

Desde que regressou da America do Sul, o Professor ROWE conferenciou com o Presidente ROOSEVELT relativamente aos fins e resultados de sua viagem e os planos que tem elaborado para a promoção de relações intellectuaes mais estreitas entre os Estados Unidos e as suas irmãs do Sul. Neste numero do BOLETIM reproduzimos a carta que o Presidente ROOSEVELT dirigiu ao Professor ROWE, manifestando sua apreciação pelos seus trabalhos.

"MEU CARO SENHOR ROWE: Tenho tomado muito interesse pela descripção da viagem que fizestes pela America do Sul e os varios planos por vos elaborados para fortalecer as relações intellectuaes existentes entre a parte septentrional e meridional do continente. Julgo de grande conveniencia que, além das relações de amizade existentes entre os Governos das Republicas Americanas, se estabeleçam relações pessoaes entre os *leaders* da opinião publica nessas Republicas. Taes relações pessoaes tendem poderosamente para destruir os preconceitos e concepções erroneas resultantes da falta de conhecimento mutuo. Neste hemispherio occidental, cada uma das Republicas pode tanto aprender como ensinar ás outras, quando posta em contacto com suas irmãs.

"Creio que não ha melhores meios de conseguir este resultado que as universidades americanas. Ha muitos problemas economicos, sociaes e industriaes—para não fallar de outros mais estrictamente scientificos—que são distinctamente americanos em seu caracter e continentaes em seu escopo. Com a cooperação dos estudantes e homens investigadores de nossas differentes Republicas, a experiencia accumulada deste hemispherio poderá ser applicada á solução desses problemas, com maiores probabilidades de exito. A communidade de opinião e de acção, assim produzidas, servirá tambem para fortalecer cada vez mais os laços de amizade entre todos os povos deste hemispherio occidental.

"Faço votos para que este movimento tenha exito.

"Sou com toda a consideração,

THEODORE ROOSEVELT."

REPUBLICA ARGENTINA.

COMMERCIO EXTERIOR, PRIMEIROS NOVE MEZES DE 1907.

A Repartição de Estatistica da Republica Argentina acaba de publicar seu boletim "El Comercio Exterior Argentino," contendo os dados estatisticos do commercio exterior da Republica durante os primeiros nove mezes de 1907. Desses algarismos se vê que a importação nesse periodo foi no valor de $202,835,218 ouro, ou mais $5,519,704 que em egual periodo de 1906, e a exportação foi no valor

de $240,878,611, ou mais $16,247,350 que em egual periodo do anno anterior. Das importações, $128,184,517 representam o valor das que pagaram direitos de importação, e $74,650,701, as que entraram livres de direitos. As importações de ouro e de prata foram no valor de $23,440,946. Das exportações, $868 representam o valor das mercadorias que pagaram direitos de exportação e $240,877,743, as que foram isentas de direitos. As exportações de ouro e de prata no periodo em referencia foram no valor de $281,750.

Desses algarismos resulta um balanço commercial a favor da Republica de $38,043,393, ao passo que as importações de ouro e de prata excederam ás exportações desses metaes em $23,159,193.

Na importação o Reino Unido figura em primeiro lugar com $71,964,236, seguindo-se-lhe a Allemanha com $32,131,549; os Estados Unidos com $26,476,423; a França com $18,447,927; Italia com $17,577,375; Belgica com $11,471,881; Brazil com $5,371,957; Hespanha com $5,191,250; Uruguay, $1,874,291; Austria-Hungria, $1,731,721; os Paizes Baixos, $1,162,333; Paraguay, $983,143; Chile, $313,955; Bolivia, $105,457, e Africa, $15,997.

Comprehendidos na classificação "outros paizes de origem" estão: Australia, $44,418; Canadá, $687,141; Colombia, $2,493; Cuba, $386,964; China, $404,409; Dinamarca, $36,744; Equador, $23,528; Egypto, $1,103; Grecia, $31,555; Gautemala, $689; Japão, $147,764; Mexico, $3,622; Noruega, $336,171; Persia, $547; Peru, $531,843; Portugal, $208,287; Colonias francezas, $6,875; colonias hollandezas, $30,039; colonias inglezas, $2,641,515; colonias norteamericanas, $9,855; Roumania, $1,675; Russia, $261,815; Salvador, $708; Republica Dominicana, $287; Suecia, $280,076; Suissa, $1,567,371; Turquia, $30,044; e Venezuela, $9,633.

Comparando-seas importações com as de egual periodo de 1906, verifica-se que houve augmentos nas importações provenientes dos seguintes paizes: Allemanha, $3,617,968; Grã Bretanha, $2,803,301; Belgica, $2,262,096; Austria-Hungria, $545,587; Uruguay, $520,521; Brazil, $598,085; Paraguay, $84,318, e Bolivia, $10,862.

Houve diminuição nas importações provenientes dos seguintes paizes: França, $2,216,698; Italia, $1,009,397; os Estados Unidos, $719,829; Hespanha, $358,155; Chile, $132,410; os Paizes Baixos, $27,344, e Africa, $5,265.

Os paizes que importaram generos da Republica Argentina durante os primeiros nove mezes de 1907 foram a Grã Bretanha, que occupa o primeiro lugar com $40,561,378; a Allemanha, com $28,784,527; França, com $28,351,594; Belgica, $24,637,882; Brazil, $10,338,686; os Estados Unidos, $8,627,941; os Paizes Baixos, $3,526,970; Italia, $3,263,705; Uruguay, $2,839,833; Chile, $1,586,677; Africa, $1,326,650 Hespanha, $1,287,154; Bolivia, $543,853; Austria-Hungria, $521,492, e Paraguay, $117,139.

Na classificação "outros paizes de destino" estão comprehendidos: Cuba, $217,811; Dinamarca, $89,238; Noruega, $1,061,144; Peru, $90,613; Portugal, $25,401; colonias francezas, $684; colonias inglezas $45,197, e Suecia, $665,149.

Houve augmento nas exportações para os seguintes paizes: Grã Bretanha, $9,300,538; Belgica, $5,027,366; França, $3,711,702; Brazil, $1,598,683; os Paizes Baixos, $1,189,856; Austria-Hungria, $486,951; Chile, $430,984, e Bolivia, $246,076.

Nota-se uma diminuição nas exportações para os seguintes paizes: Africa, $1,957,171; os Estados Unidos, $1,701,312; Italia, $1,526,770; Uruguay, $977,049; Hespanha, $574,033; Allemanha, $399,408, e Paraguay, $17,709.

O valor da importação durante os primeiros nove mezes de 1907 foi o maior registrado durante o decennio de 1898–1907, ao passo que o valor da exportação apenas foi excedido no anno de 1905, quando ascendeu a $247,110,133.

O valor do commercio de importação para todo o anno é calculado em $268,655,917, comparado com $269,970,521 em 1906, ao passo que o valor da exportação para o anno é calculado em $318,622,501, contra $292,253,829 no anno anterior.

O seguinte quadro mostra os generos importados durante os primeiros nove mezes de 1907, com seus respectivos valores, comparados com os do periodo correspondente de 1906:

Generos.	Primeiros nove mezes de 1907.	Differença para mais ou para menos.
Animaes vivos	$1,289,472	− 84,177
Productos alimenticios	14,488,526	+ 1,427,250
Fumo e suas manufacturas	3,334,241	− 313,171
Vinhos e bebidas espirituosas	8,638,272	− 122,005
Tecidos	36,774,332	− 7,293,130
Oleos, etc	5,708,485	+ 152,479
Productos chimicos e pharmaceuticos	5,758,459	+ 53,630
Tintas e materias corantes	1,090,496	− 77,482
Madeiras e suas manufacturas	4,142,710	+ 99,639
Papel e suas manufacturas	3,860,608	+ 460,903
Couros e suas manufacturas	1,519,115	− 259,532
Ferro e aço e suas manufacturas	21,881,358	− 3,045,906
Outros metaes	5,095,933	− 972,505
Utensilios agricolas	10,403,024	− 1,394,407
Vehiculos e partes delles	40,704,872	+16,270,779
Objectos de ceramica	14,852,052	− 412,055
Materiaes de construcção	15,784,402	+ 694,040
Apparelhos electricos	2,487,013	+ 287,154
Outros artigos	5,020,858	+ 47,210

Os generos exportados nos dous periodos em comparação foram os seguintes:

Generos.	Primeiros nove mezes de 1907.	Differença para mais ou para menos.
Productos animaes	$88,246,566	$1,464,953
Productos agricolas	146,406,061	+19,524,731
Productos florestaes	3,966,755	− 805,130
Productos mineiros	490,619	+ 302,712
Productos da caça	609,565	− 92,765
Productos diversos	1,159,045	− 1,217,240

RENDAS INTERNAS, PRIMEIROS NOVE MEZES DE 1907.

A arrecadação dos impostos internos durante os primeiros nove mezes de 1907 attingiu á somma de $31,493,006.17, papel, e $21,641, ouro, contra $28,744,276.68, papel, e $19,634.16, ouro, em egual periodo do anno anterior.

ISENÇÃO DE DIREITOS DE IMPORTAÇÃO CONCEDIDA AOS MACHINISMOS PARA MINERAÇÃO E ESTABELECIMENTOS METALLURGICOS.

A lei federal de 30 de setembro de 1907 concede isenção de direitos de importação, pelo prazo de dez annos, aos machinismos, instrumentos e materiaes destinados á exploração de minas e ás usinas metallurgicas já estabelecidas ou que vierem a estabelecer-se na Republica. Estão tambem comprehendidos nas disposições desta lei, as machinas, instrumentos e materiaes que fôrem importados para a abertura de poços.

As pessoas que desejarem obter este favor, deverão requerer ao inpector da aifandega por onde se pretende importar os ditos materiaes. As despezas feitas com a verificação dos materiaes correrão por conta do requerente.

BRAZIL.

RENDAS ADUANEIRAS, PRIMEIROS NOVE MEZES DE 1907.

O rendimento produzido pelas alfandegas da Republica durante os nove primeiros mezes de 1907 attingiu a 218,644:174$000, comparado com 175,176 : 815$000 em igual periodo de 1906, o que mostra um augmento a favor dos nove primeiros mezes de 1907, de 43,467 : 359$000.

CUBA.

RECENSEAMENTO DA REPUBLICA EM 1907.

Segundo o relatorio sobre o recenseamento de 1907 que o Director Geral do Censo submetteu em dezembro ao Governador Provisorio de Cuba, a população da Republica é de 2,028,282 habitantes. O seguinte quadro demonstra a população, por provincias, comparada com o recenseamento de 1899.

Provincias.	1899.	1907.
Pinar del Rio	173,082	240,781
Habana	424,811	518,524
Matanzas	202,462	239,866
Santa Clara	356,537	457,897
Camaguey	88,237	117,432
Oriente	327,716	453,782
Total	1,572,845	2,028,282

DECISÕES SOBRE EXTRAVIOS DE MERCADORIAS.

A "Gaceta Oficial" de 19 de outubro de 1907 contem uma circular determinando que ficarão sujeitas a impostos de importação sómente as mercadorias que fôrem effectivamente introduzidas e despachadas em Cuba, e não sobre as mercadorias que fôrem extraviadas durante a viagem ou descarga do navio, ainda que estejam declaradas no manifesto ou conhecimento de carga. Todas as circulares em contrario são revogadas.

EQUADOR.

A EXPOSIÇÃO NACIONAL DE QUITO.

O Presidente ALFARO expediu um decreto em 31 de outubro de 1907, estabelecendo as bases para a organização de uma grande exposição nacional em Quito commemorativa do primeiro centenario do grito de independencia, que se abrirá no dia 10 de ãgosto de 1909.

O decreto estabelece que em terrenos publicos proximos á capital serão construidos um grande edificio publico ou pavilhão nacional e varios outros pavilhões menores destinados á exposição. O conselho municipal da cidade de Quito providenciará para que seja construido um magnifico boulevard entre a cidade e o recinto da exposição. A exposição será organizada e dirigida por uma commissão geral nomeada pelo Governo e composta de trinta membros; no seio desta commissão será formado um directorio executivo. Cada uma das provincias da Republica nomeará uma commissão seccional, as quaes ficarão subordinadas á commissão geral.

A exposição tem por fim, além de sua feição commemorativa e historica, exhibir os productos commerciaes e industriaes, as artes liberaes e finanças do Equador. Haverá uma secção especial em que será exhibido o systema de instrucção da Republica.

Talvez a secção mais importante da exposição será a destinada á exhibição dos productos florestaes. Nesta serão expostas as madeiras nacionaes, especialmente as diversas especies da arvore da borracha, os processos de extracção e seu beneficiamento para o mercado, com photographias mostrando todas as phases da cultura da borracha, a que se consagra attenção especial no Equador. Tambem serão exhibidos os páus e cascas de tinturaria e madeiras de construcção.

Uma secção será destinada á representação dos ramos ordinarios de agricultura, taes como a cultura de cereaes, de plantas textis, a exhibição de fructas, a fabricação de assucar e aguardente e vinhos.

Será feita uma exhibição da sericicultura com o fim de desenvolver no paiz a industria da creação do bicho de seda. Para isso, trata-se de obter exhibições da China, Japão, India, Madagascar, França, Italia, Hespanha, Hungria e os Estados Unidos.

A industria pastoril que constitue uma das principaes industrias do Equador, assim como de muitas outras republicas da America do Sul, será bem representada na exposição. Attenção especial será dada ao progresso que se tem feito na creação de animaes de raça.

Haverá uma secção de pesca, outra de minas, e ainda outra de estradas de ferro.

O Governo do Equador offerece a somma de 10,000,000 sucres para ser distribuida em premios para o melhor trabalho literario sobre assumptos patrioticos e historicos.

Ainda que a exposição é organizada para a exhibição de productos nacionaes, são convidados a participarem nella os Governos das nações estrangeiras.

ESTADOS UNIDOS.

COMMERCIO COM OS PAIZES LATINO-AMERICANOS.

RELAÇÃO MENSAL DA IMPORTAÇÃO E EXPORTAÇÃO.

O quadro apresentado na pagina 101 é extrahido dos dados compilados pelo Chefe da Repartição de Estatistica do Departamento do Commercio e Trabalho, mostrando o movimento commercial entre os Estados Unidos e os paizes latino-americanos. A relação corresponde ao mez de novembro de 1907, com uma identica comparativa para o mez correspondente do anno anterior, assim como para os doze mezes findos em novembro de 1907, comparados com o periodo correspondente do anno precedente. Deve-se explicar que os algarismos das diversas alfandegas, mostrando as importações e exportações de um só mez, são recebidos no Departamento do Thesouro até quasi o dia 20 do mez seguinte, e perde-se algum tempo necessariamente em sua compilação e impressão. Por conseguinte, as estatisticas para o mez de novembro, por exemplo, não são publicadas até os primeiros dias de janeiro.

GUATEMALA.

CONDIÇÕES ECONOMICAS.

Um pamphleto interessante preparado pelo Sr. Victor Aguilar-Peláez, Consul da Republica de Guatemala em Liverpool e Manchester, contem as seguintes informações sobre os recursos e actuaes condições economicas daquelle paiz.

As importações, cujo valor attingiu a $7,220,759 em 1906, consistem de machinas de todas as classes, tecidos de lã, algodão, seda e linho, chapéos, productos alimenticios, vinhos e licores, alimentos em conserva, porcellana, louça, obras de vidro, louça de ferro, artigos

de armarinho, pianos, carruagens, bilhares, instrumentos musicos, quadros, vernizes, remedios, perfumarias, joias, pedras preciosas, artigos de phantasia, etc. Esses artigos são fornecidos pelos seguintes paizes: Estados Unidos, Allemanha, Inglaterra, França, Italia, Hespanha, Belgica, Suissa, Austria, Hollanda, Japão, China, Mexico, Peru, Chile e as outras Republicas da America Central.

As exportações, cujo valor foi de $7,136,271 em 1906, consistem principalmente de café, assucar, bananas, madeiras, couros, borracha, plantas medicinaes, fructas, etc. Exportam-se annualmente cerca de 50,000 toneladas de café, que é o principal artigo de exportação. Os paizes que importam generos de procedencia de Guatemala são os Estados Unidos, Allemanha, Inglaterra, França, Italia, Austria-Hungria, Hespanha, Belgica e Chile.

O commercio exterior augmenta constantemente e com a abertura ao trafego da Estrada de Ferro Intercontinental entre San José no Pacifico e Puerto Barrios no Atlantico, na extensão total de 269 milhas, hão de se augmentar muito as facilidades para o transporte dos productos nacionaes para os portos de mar.

As estradas de ferro que estão actualmente em trafego são a Central, a Oeste, a Ocos, a Verapaz e a de Guatemala, devendo ser inaugurada a Estrada de Ferro do Norte no mez de dezembro de 1907.

As producções de Guatemala são abundantes e variadas. No reino vegetal encontram-se todas as variedades de plantas, flores e fructas proprias das zonas torrida e temperada. Existem no paiz ricas minas de ouro, prata, cobre, ferro, chumbo, zinco, antimonio, carvão de pedra, marmore, enxofre, mica, etc.

A agricultura, porém, constitue a principal fonte de riqueza e na sua exploração estão empregados a maior parte dos capitaes estrangeiros. Devido á extraordinaria fertilidade do solo, não se necessitam adubos e a grande humidade do clima, mesmo na estação secca, torna desnecessaria a irrigação.

Em certas regiões da costa podem-se obter duas ou tres colheitas de productos por anno. Existem extensas plantações de café, canna de assucar, cacáo, bananas, cereaes, etc., ao passo que nos departamentos septentrionaes do paiz numerosas companhias nacionaes e estrangeiras occupam-se na exploração das florestas, as quaes contem madeiras duras em abundancia, principalmente o mogno e o cedro. A borracha é tambem cultivada com excellentes resultados.

Quanto aos productos manufacturados, são dignos de menção diversos artigos por sua boa qualidade. Os tecidos de lã e de algodão, os moveis e calçado de fabrica nacional, podem comparar-se favoravelmente com os similares estrangeiros. Outros artigos de producção nacional são: Chapéos, sellins, artigos de fibras, tecidos de junco, louça de barro, peças de esculptura, instrumentos musicos, sabão, velas, charutos, cigarros, queijo, manteiga, cerveja, aguas mineraes,

gelo, aguardente, etc. Os nacionaes têm muito geito para aprender novos officios e abundam no paiz as materias primas.

A Republica tem uma superficie de 125,000 kilometros quadrados e sua população é calculada em 2,000,000 habitantes ou seja 16 habitantes por kilometro quadrado.

O aspecto physico de Guatemala é montanhoso e é cortado por numerosos rios. O clima varia com a altitude. As regiões do littoral são quentes, os planaltos do interior gozam de um clima temperado e ameno, ao passo que as regiões elevadas são frias. A estação secca e a das chuvas caracterisam-se pelo facto que durante esta chove todos os dias, ao passo que durante a estação secca quasi não chove.

As regiões do sul e do oeste são as mais povoadas, tendo a cidade de Guatemala uma população de 100,000 habitantes. A capital é ligada por via ferrea aos portos de San José no Pacifico e de Puerto Barrios no Atlantico. Faz-se a viagem da capital a San José (74.5 milhas) em cinco horas, e da capital a Puerto Barrios (194.5 milhas) em doze horas.

A viagem entre os portos do Atlantico de Guatemala e os Estados Unidos é feita em quatro dias, e entre Guatemala e Europa em quinze dias.

A costa do Pacifico tem uma extensão de 250 kilometros, e a do Atlantico, de 161 kilometros. San José, Champerico e Ocos são os portos da costa do Atlantico, e Puerto Barrios, San Tomás e Livingston os da do Atlantico. Panzós no Rio Polochic e Gualán no Rio Motagua são portos fluviaes. Tambem Isabel, situado no lago do mesmo nome, é um porto de importancia.

MEXICO.

SITUAÇÃO ECONOMICA E A PERSPECTIVA DO ANNO DE 1908-9.

No dia 14 de dezembro de 1907, o Sr. Licenciado José Yves Limantour, Ministro da Fazenda do Mexico, apresentou ao Congresso Nacional o relatorio costumado relativo ao exercicio de 1906–7, e o projecto de orçamento da receita e despeza para o exercicio de 1908–9.

A receita ordinaria é orçada em $103,385,000, ouro, e a despeza é fixada em $103,203,824.63, ouro, do que resulta um saldo de $181,175.37.

Ao fazer commentarios sobre a situação economica e financeira do paiz, diz o Ministro Limantour que não se acreditava em fins do anno passado que no seguinte anno variassem de maneira notavel as condições geraes de prosperidade que têm prevalecido, e essa expectativa foi confirmada pelos factos, pois as principaes manifestações da vida material do paiz e de sua força economica não attestam outra cousa senão um grande desenvolvimento e um solido bem estar.

Os direitos de importação e os emolumentos consulares acusam um augmento de mais de 16 por cento sobre os do anno anterior, ainda que não se tem feito modificação alguma na tarifa das alfandegas. A venda de estampilhas ordinarias revela tambem um augmento notavel nas transacções interiores, não obstante que, no decurso do ultimo anno, a tarifa do sello foi modificada no sentido de uma reducção consideravel das taxas a que estão sujeitas a maior parte das operações.

Quanto á contribuição federal que se cobra sobre todos os impostos ou rendas arrecadadas pelos Estados e municipalidades, nota-se tambem sensivel augmento, que demonstra que a arrecadação dos impostos continua augmentando. A procura de estampilhas especiaes para o pagamento dos impostos sobre propriedades mineiras, fumo, bebidas alcoolicas, tecidos de algodão e as substancias explosivas, denota tambem o desenvolvimento constante dessas industrias. A renda dos Serviços Postal e Telegraphico mostra consideravel augmento, ao passo que no Districto Federal, as transacções de bens immoveis e actividade commercial e industrial foram maiores que nos annos anteriores.

Quanto á producção agricola nacional, diz-se que não ha base segura para calcular-se si a ultima colheita satisfará as necessidades do consumo até a proxima colheita, sem ter que acudir á importação de cereaes estrangeiros. A importação de milho e trigo estrangeiro constitue um dos factores mais importantes para determinar o estado do mercado monetario local devido ás grandes remessas de dinheiro que se tem feito ao estrangeiro com motivo das exigencias do estado actual financeiro.

A producção e exportação de metaes preciosos, os quaes, com o cobre e o chumbo, representam mais de 95 por cento do valor total da producção, são os seguintes: producção de ouro, $36,563,898.24; exportação de ouro, $23,873,713.94; producção de prata, $77,038,827; exportação de prata, $99,861,790.86. Por esses algarismos se vê que a producção do ouro tem permanecido quasi estacionaria, ao passo que a da prata mostra um augmento de $1,483,221.73, sobre a de 1905–6. A producção do cobre e a do chumbo diminuiram sensivelmente no ultimo anno, devido á paralysação de algumas minas cujos minerios são de pobre lei, ao passo que o zinco, o antimonio e outras substancias mineiras têm sido extrahidas em maior escala que antes.

A analyse dos algarismos do commercio exterior mostra que a importação foi no valor de $233,363,388.85, em 1906–7, comparada com $220,004,755, no exercicio anterior, o que accusa um augmento de $13,358,633.85. Houve uma diminuição de $11,000,000 no valor das mercadorias que entraram livres de direitos, ao passo

que as mercadorias que pagaram direitos de importação mostram um augmento de mais de $24,000,000.

Nota-se um augmento no valor das importações de productos animaes, tecidos, productos chimicos e pharmaceuticos, e, em geral, em todas as classes da tarifa. O maior augmento, porém, foi realizado em machinas e apparelhos de todas as classes, tendo o valor dessas importações subido de $20,410,722.73, a $27,735,743.65, o que mostra um augmento de $7,325,020.92. Entre os artigos que mais avultaram na importação figuram os vehiculos, tendo sido as importações no valor de $9,000,308.49 em 1906, contra $4,595,157.85, o anno anterior. A diminuição de $7,871,480.15, verificada nas importações de productos mineraes é devida em grande parte ao facto de que em 1905–6 foram cunhadas nos Estados Unidos grandes quantidades de moedas mexicanas, e ainda que essa cunhagem em 1906–7 foi na importancia de $23,000,000, foi muito menor que no anno anterior.

A exportação em 1906–7 foi no valor de $248,018,010, contra $271,138,809.32 em 1905–6. O Ministro Limantour explica essa apparente diminuição deste modo:

"No orçamento do anno passado se declarou que suppondo que os $39,000,000 em ouro que se importaram em 1905–6, deu em resultado uma exportação artificial de pesos em prata em uma quantia equivalente, o valor total das exportações, tendo este facto em conta, não foi $271,000,000, mas $232,000,000. Na falta de dados mais precisos, pode-se dizer que, porquanto no valor total das exportações em 1906–7 estão incluidos os 13,000,000 pesos de prata que foram enviados ao estrangeiro em cambio de moedas de ouro mexicanas e estrangeiras, as quaes estão incluidas no valor das importações, é necessario descontar a quantia em referencia do valor das exportações, afim de que este ultimo possa calcular-se em $235,-000,000. Tendo em conta estas explicações, se comprehende que o valor das exportações de productos do paiz em 1906–7, excedeu um pouco o das de 1905–6. O valor destes ultimos excedeu em muito ao dos de qualquer outro anno anterior.

"O valor das exportações de metaes, exclusive do ouro e a prata, no anno em referencia foi como segue: cobre, $28,800,000; chumbo, $3,644,739, e outros metaes, incluindo zinco e antimonio, $4,072,982.

"Entre os productos vegetaes exportados figuram: hennequen, $31,440,246; ixtle, $3,813,176; café, $7,237,529; fumo em folha, $1,894,830; ervilhas gallegas, $4,084,521; gomma de mascar, $2,144,-724; madeiras de marcenaria, $2,169,778; madeiras de tinturaria, $739,810; borracha, inclusive o guayule, $6,678,926; plantas de guayule, $61,225.

"O valor das exportações de borracha, incluindo o guayule que começou a exportar-se ha cinco annos, na actualidade excede de

$6,500,000 por anno; o valor das exportações de ervilhas tem-se triplicado; o do ixtle tem subido de $3,000,000 a $3,800,000; e o valor da gomma de mascar mostra um augmento de 50 por cento. O valor das exportações do hennequen é calculado em cerca de $30,000,000, e as quantidades exportadas oscillam de 82,000 toneladas até 110,000 toneladas que se exportaram em 1906–7. Houve uma diminuição de $2,000,000 nas exportações de café.

"O valor dos productos animaes que se exportaram ascendeu a $11,151,928, o que mostra uma diminuição de $571,497, em comparação com o anno anterior. O gado que representa um dos principaes artigos exportados foi exportado no valor de $1,201,693, e o valor dos couros crus exportados ascendeu a $8,875,091.

"Outros artigos exportados foram os seguintes: assucar refinado, $1,164,339; assucar mascavado, $26,612; farinha e pães de caroço de algodão, $846,280; chapéos de palma, $631,219; couros e pelles curtidos $34,883, e fumo preparado, $493,228."

O Secretario LIMANTOUR faz o seguinte resumo do commercio estrangeiro: "Valor total das importações em 1906–7, $233,363,388; valor total das exportações, $248,018,010, o que mostra um saldo a favor das exportações de $14,654,622.

"Existe uma grande differença entre este excesso no valor e o que se verifica dos dados correspondentes ao anno de 1905–6, que ascendeu a $51,134,054, e tambem existe differença, ainda que um pouco menor, entre o dito excesso no valor e no de 1904–5, que foi de $30,315,489."

Ao fazer commentarios sobre o que fica exposto o Secretario LIMANTOUR disse o seguinte:

"Em outros annos se têm dado minuciosas explicações acerca daquelles factores que por mais que affectavam o valor da importação e da exportação, não se incluem nem podem incluir-se nos dados estatisticos fiscaes que se referem sómente aos productos naturaes e manufacturados e as quantidades de moedas que entram e sahem. Tambem se tem explicado que a nação mexicana tem que remetter para o estrangeiro annualmente grandes quantias para o pagamento dos juros sobre emprestimos e os lucros de emprezas commerciaes cujos donos residem em paizes estrangeiros, e a esses pagamentos devem accrescentar-se os que se fazem estrictamente em pagamento das importações. Não cabe a menor duvida de que o excedente que houve o anno passado no valor das exportações, e que ascendeu a mais de $14,000,000, foi de todo insufficiente para satisfazer esses pagamentos. O excedente que se obteve em 1905–6, e que foi na importancia de $81,000,000, não foi sufficiente para fazer frente a esta divida. Afim de entender este asserto, convem recordar que todos os titulos de nossa divida publica, com excepção de uma proporção relativamente pequena, estão em poder de estrangeiros, e que o serviço desta divida exige a somma de $24,000,000 por anno; que além da

divida do Governo Federal, alguns dos Estados e municipalidades têm contrahido emprestimos cujos titulos são tidos por estrangeiros e dos quaes o pagamento annual ascende a $1,000,000; que as companhias de estradas de ferro têm que enviar ao estrangeiro mais de $25,000,000 cada anno em pagamento do juro dos seus titulos, e que os bancos da Republica distribuem annualmente milhões de pesos em dividendos fora da Republica. Por consequencia se têm chegado á conclusão de que as remessas de fundos, titulos e mercadorias que temos que fazer annualmente ao estrangeiro, se pagam mediante a collocação natural e espontanea no Mexico de capital estrangeiro.

"A condição monetaria da Republica tem melhorado notavelmente desde o anno passado. A escassez de moedas subsidiarias que existia então tem cessado por completo, e a circulação de ouro é muito mais abundante. O augmento dessas duas classes de moeda é em parte contrabalançado pela exportação de pesos fortes, provocada em 1906–7, pela mesma razão que em 1905–6, a alta do preço da prata em barras com respeito ao valor em ouro da dita moeda.

"A cunhagem total de novas moedas desde 5 de maio de 1905, a data em que foi posta em execução a reforma monetaria, até 30 de junho de 1907, foi na importancia de $95,561,570.70. Deduzindo-se desta somma os $75,416,231, prata, exportados durante o mesmo periodo, e os $14,456,923.17 que representam a cunhagem de moedas velhas, verifica-se um augmento na circulação de moeda em 30 de junho de 1907, de $5,688,416.53. Em fins de novembro de 1907, este augmento era já de mais de $11,000,000.

"A Commissão de Cambios e Moeda tem desempenhado suas funcções com notavel acerto. Aproveitando-se de todas as circumstancias favoraveis, tem conseguido em dous annos substituir quasi todas as moedas velhas por peças cunhadas conforme á lei monetaria de 1905; tem distribuido a nova moeda em todo o Territorio Nacional, fazendo frente ás numerosas difficuldades que a escassez ou a abundancia do meio circulante tem provocado em cada localidade; tem attrahido o ouro á Republica em grandes quantidades e retido no paiz grande parte da producção nacional, e tem contribuido para manter com firmeza a taxa de cambio com as nações estrangeiras.

"Nos primeiros mezes de 1907, o valor dos bens de raiz e o preço dos titulos de companhias industriaes, mineiras e commerciaes continuaram em augmento, e a comparação desses valores com os correspondentes de 1906, dá um resultado muito satisfactorio. Em meiados do anno, a escassez de dinheiro que se sentia nos mercados estrangeiros começou a communicar-se ao Mexico e tornou-se difficil o emprego de capitaes europeos no Mexico. Não obstante a influencia dos acontecimentos citados, todos os signaes da riqueza publica do Mexico demonstram muita firmeza e vitalidade.

"No orçamento da receita para o exercicio de 1908–9, os impostos sobre o commercio de importação e de exportação são calculados em $49,600,000; os impostos internos, em $32,055; os impostos especiaes no Districto Federal e Territorios, em $10,930,000; serviços publicos, em $6,405,000; renda proveniente de terras nacionaes, em $265,000, e outras fontes de renda, $4,130,000."

CONDIÇÕES DA INDUSTRIA DO GUAYULE.

O Senhor GOTTSCHALK, Consul Geral dos Estados Unidos na cidade de Mexico, dirigiu ultimamente ao seu Governo um relatorio sobre as condições actuaes da industria do guayule que demonstra o estado precario desta industria a menos que se descobra um methodo seguro de propagar a planta. O Senhor GOTTSCHALK prevê a pouca duração dessa industria si o guayule continuar a ser explorado como o é na actualidade.

Eis o resumo do relatorio:

Um dos productos que nos ultimos dous annos tem attrahido a attenção do mundo é o guayule (*Parthenium argentum*) que anteriormente se considerava como uma praga, tornando imprestaveis os terrenos em que elle abundava, mas se descobriu que tinha certa importancia commercial como uma planta productora de borracha. Os terrenos guayuleiros da parte septentrional do Mexico foram logo explorados e os preços pagos pelo producto augmentaram enormemente, ao passo que foram estabelecidas grande numero de fabricas para a extracção da borracha, principalmente em Torreon, Saltillo e Coahuila. Fizeram-se contractos para a entrega de grandes quantidades do arbusto, pagando-se em alguns casos até $50 ouro, por tonelada e vendendo-se a borracha de guayule por $1 a libra. Como resultado deste enthusiasmo, fizeram-se investigações das propriedades da planta, verificando-se que ninguem parecia ter uma idea exacta quanto ao methodo a ser empregado para a propagação da planta. O dono de uma grande plantação de guayule manifestou ao Senhor GOTTSCHALK que havia descoberto, demasiado tarde, que si se tivesse o cuidado de deixar fructificar antes de cortal-o, e se sacudisse cuidadosamente a planta depois de haver-se cortado afim de que as sementes cahissem ao solo, este terreno continuaria produzindo dita planta. Como, porém, a maior producção de borracha se obtem cortando a planta quando relativamente nova, e como as sementes poderiam permanecer latentes e improductivas durante dous ou tres annos, se comprehenderá desde logo que o explorador de borracha ordinario não estaria disposto a adoptar as precauções necessarias.

O guayule cresce espontaneamente em uma area muito limitada do Mexico. O trabalho de recolher o arbusto é feito sem methodo e

não se cuida absolutamente de sua reproducção, quer por semente, quer por outro meio. Sem embargo, um contracto recente celebrado com o Governo relativo a esta industria, comprehende certas estipulações acerca deste assumpto.

Os elevados preços que as fabricas pagam pelo guayule fazem com que este é recolhido antes que esteja sufficientemente maduro, com o resultado de que frequentemente se recebem grandes quantidades de guayule que não produzem a quantidade de borracha que devem produzir.

O Professor F. A. Lloyd, ex-cathedratico do Laboratorio de Botanica no Instituto de Carnegie, estabelecido em Tucson, Arizona, ao tratar de descobrir um meio de propagar a planta de uma maneira adequada, tem feito experimentos scientificos em uma das plantações de Chihuahua, mas até a data não se tem annunciado os resultados de seus experimentos.

O consumo actual do guayule na região central onde estão estabelecidas as fabricas é calculado em 1,000 toneladas da planta por mez, e o Senhor Gottschalk affirma que os fabricantes lhe têm manifestado que a industria poderá durar apenas tres ou quatro annos, a menos que se empreguem methodos efficazes para a reproducção da planta.

PERU.

SERVIÇO DE NAVEGAÇÃO A VAPOR ENTRE NEW YORK E CALLÁO.

Com a inauguração do novo serviço de navegação a vapor entre New York e Callão, via Panamá, pela Companhia Nacional de Vapores e Docas de Callão, será dado um grande passo economico no intercambio commercial das duas secções. Esta empreza, que se espera que inaugurará seu serviço em principios de 1908, tem um capital de $15,000,000, e receberá do Governo do Peru uma subvenção de $1,500,000. Estão actualmente em construcção na Inglaterra vapores rapidos para esta linha. A companhia pretende fazer a viagem de Panamá a Callão em cinco dias, em vez de onze ou doze dias, que é o tempo actualmente empregado nessa viagem.

Callão é o maior porto do Pacifico entre San Francisco e Valparaiso, e o estabelecimento de um serviço de vapores rapidos com os portos da Europa e dos Estados Unidos dará sem duvida alguma um grande impulso ao seu desenvolvimento.

ESTADO FINANCEIRO DOS PAIZES LATINO-AMERICANOS.

"El Economista Argentino" publica dados interessantes organizados pelo Sr. GABRIEL CARRASCO, mostrando as receitas e despezas absolutas e relativas das differentes Republicas Latino-Americanas. Os algarismos, na maioria dos casos, correspondem ao anno de 1905.

	Despeza.	Receita.	Despeza por habitante.	Receita por habitante.
Republica Argentina	$88,480,000	$89,225,000	$15.52	15.65
Bolivia	4,675,000	4,162,000	2.59	2.28
Brazil	127,639,000	127,478,000	8.95	8.92
Chile	39,754,000	40,745,000	12.42	12.73
Colombia	14,420,000	9,149,000	3.20	2.03
Costa Rica	1,933,000	2,493,000	8.96	10.26
Cuba	19,138,000	19,699,000	12.11	12.52
Republica Dominicana	2,399,000	2,427,000	5.75	5.82
Equador	6,119,000	5,857,000	4.82	4.60
Guatemala	13,658,000	11,500,000	7.42	6.24
Haiti	11,028,000	9,767,000	7.70	6.85
Honduras	1,670,000	1,652,000	3.07	3.04
Mexico	43,089,000	44,052,000	3.17	3.24
Nicaragua (1903)	1,887,000	1,322,000	4.37	3.08
Paraguay (1904)	1,684,000	1,686,000	2.64	2.65
Panamá				
Peru	11,758,000	11,856,000	3.92	3.95
Salvador	5,070,000	5,311,000	5.07	5.31
Uruguay	19,474,000	19,590,000	19.47	19.59
Venezuela (1903)	11,606,000	11,606,000	4.48	4.48

CALLE DE PICHINCHA, UNE DES PRINCIPALES RUES DE GUAYAQUIL, ÉQUATEUR. AU CENTRE, LE BÂTIMENT SURMONTÉ D'UNE COUPOLE, EST OCCUPÉ PAR LE CONSULAT DES ÉTATS-UNIS.

Calle de Pichincha, one of the principal streets of Guayaquil, Ecuador. The building in the center, with cupola, is the United States consulate.

Bulletin Mensuel

DU

Bureau International des Républiques Américaines,

Union Internationale des Républiques Américaines.

Vol. XXVI. JANVIER 1908. No. 1.

(Un grand nombre des articles que l'on traite ci-dessous ne sont publiés en entier que dans les parties anglaise et espagnole du Bulletin.)

La réception que le Gouvernement et le peuple brésiliens ont faite à la flotte de cuirassés des États-Unis lors de son entrée dans le port de Rio de Janeiro le 12 janvier dernier a été si sincère et si cordiale, et l'hospitalité que les officiers et les marins ont reçue pendant les dix jours qu'ils sont restés dans le pays a été si grande et si chaleureuse qu'ils n'oublieront jamais les attentions dont ils ont été l'objet. Dans toute l'histoire des croisières de la marine américaine à l'étranger, c'est le Brésil, dans son port de Rio de Janeiro, qui a manifesté le plus de sympathie lors du passage des navires de guerre. D'après les renseignements que l'on a reçus, il paraît que le gouvernement et le peuple péruviens s'apprêtent à faire à nos officiers et à nos marins dans les villes de Callao et de Lima, une réception qui égalera celle de Rio de Janeiro en sincérité et en magnificence.

Quoique Punta Arenas, le seul point du territoire chilien où la flotte fera escale, soit très éloigné de Valparaiso, le port principal, et de Santiago la capitale, le gouvernement chilien fait de grands preparatifs pour y fêter la flotte de manière à ce que les officiers et les marins puissent aussi se rappeler de leur court séjour dans les eaux chiliennes.

Par sa présence dans les eaux de l'Amérique du Sud, la flotte de cuirassés des États-Unis en route pour le Pacifique fait beaucoup pour éveiller un intérêt encore plus grand parmi les habitants des États-Unis et des Républiques latino-américaines. Le Bureau reçoit un grand nombre de lettres venant, non seulement de journaux et d'autres publications, mais aussi de particuliers qui ont, comme on peut le voir dans leurs lettres, le vif désir de se procurer

un plus grand nombre de renseignements sur les pays par où la flotte passera et sur les ports où elle fera escale dans le cours de son admirable voyage. Aussi on a donné à plusieurs centaines de journaux, des descriptions complètes de Rio de Janeiro, de Punta Arenas et de Callao de manière à leur permettre de publier des articles qui décriront ces divers points à leurs lecteurs. À ce sujet, nous dirons qu'avant le départ de la flotte, le Bureau a fait parvenir aux officiers et aux marins de chaque navire une série de publications que le Bureau a faites sur l'Amérique latine pour qu'ils puissent avoir les plus amples renseignements sur l'Amérique du Sud pendant leur voyage autour du continent méridional. Les lettres cordiales de remercîments que l'on a reçues des capitaines des navires montrent combien ils ont été sensibles à cette prévenance de la part du Bureau.

PROCHAINE CONFÉRENCE PAN-AMÉRICAINE.

À la réunion du Conseil d'Administration du Bureau qui a eu lieu le 8 janvier, on a émis le vœu que la prochaine Conférence panaméricaine se réunisse à Buenos-Ayres en 1910. On a différé le vote à ce sujet jusqu'à la prochaine réunion du Conseil d'Administration, qui aura lieu le 5 février, afin que les membres du Conseil puissent s'entendre avec leurs gouvernements et s'informer de leurs désirs à ce sujet. A la clôture de la Conférence de Rio de Janeiro en 1906, il avait été entendu que la prochaine Conférence aurait lieu à Buenos-Ayres, mais on avait laissé au Conseil d'Administration du Bureau le soin de décider ultérieurement la date et le lieu de réunion. La raison principale pour laquelle on a chosi 1910 au lieu de 1911 ou 1912 est que la République Argentine doit célébrer en 1910 le centenaire de son indépendance et elle compte avoir à cette époque une grande exposition. Par suite des grands progrès politiques et commerciaux faits maintenant par l'Amérique Latine et aussi par suite du développement de relations plus suivies entre les Etats-Unis et ses Républiques sœurs, la quatrième Conférence pan-américaine aura certainement à étudier beaucoup de choses intéressantes pour les pays qui en font partie et elle aura sûrement une grande influence sur leurs relations futures.

EXPOSITIONS DANS L'AMÉRIQUE DU SUD.

Le BULLETIN a déjà attiré l'attention d'une manière particulière sur l'exposition que le Gouvernement brésilien tiendra cet été à Rio de Janeiro et sur celle que le Gouvernement argentin tiendra à Buenos-Ayres en 1910. Maintenant le Gouvernement de l'Équateur annonce une exposition à Quito en 1901 et il a invité le Gouvernement des

États-Unis à y participer. Pour répondre à cette invitation le Président Roosevelt a envoyé un message au Congrès recommandant une allocation dans ce but. Ni le Gouvernement du Brésil, ni celui de la République Argentine ne comptent inviter les pays étrangers à y participer bien que leurs fabricants et commerçants puissent y prendre part dans des conditions spéciales. Comme l'Équateur a spécialement invité les États-Unis à participer à l'Exposition de Quito, il est à souhaiter que le Congrès vote les fonds nécessaires pour la construction d'un bâtiment convenable et pour l'envoi d'une exposition digne des Etats-Unis. Avant peu, le chemin de fer de Guayaquil sur la côte de l'Équateur à Quito, la capitale, à l'intérieur, sera achevé, de sorte que les voyageurs pourront, en débarquant des navires à Guayaquil, faire le trajet à Quito en 24 heures par une ligne de chemin de fer qui est une des merveilles du monde au point de vue des difficultés que l'art du génie a su vaincre et du paysage magnifique qui s'offre à la vue du voyageur. Quito est une des villes intéressantes de l'Amérique du Sud et le climat en est agréable. Par suite de son élévation d'environ 10,000 pieds au-dessus du niveau de la mer, Quito ne souffre pas des chaleurs excessives que l'on rencontre dans les terres basses des tropiques et sa proximité de l'équateur le protège des grands froids. À l'ouverture de l'Exposition on pourra faire le voyage de New York à Quito en moins de dix jours et on espère qu'il y aura beaucoup de personnes venant des Etats-Unis.

AMÉLIORATION DANS LE SERVICE MARITIME SUD-AMÉRICAIN.

On doit féliciter la compagnie de navigation maritime Lamport & Holt des améliorations qu'elle a apportées au service maritime entre New-York, Rio-de-Janeiro et Buenos-Ayres. On s'est grandement plaint que parmi les vapeurs faisant le service entre le port principal des États-Unis et les ports de la côte orientale de l'Amérique du Sud, il n'y en avait qu'un trop petit nombre disposés de manière à recevoir des passagers de première classe. On vient de mettre en service trois nouveaux navires de 9,000 tonnes chacun, installés pour transporter 150 passagers de première classe, 50 de deuxième classe et des passagers de troisième classe. Le *Verdi* est le premier de ces nouveaux navires à faire le voyage. Pour fêter cet événement important on a offert le 14 janvier à New-York à bord du *Verdi* un grand dîner auquel assistaient des personnes de New-York et d'autres parties du pays. Toutes ces personnes s'intéressent au développement du commerce avec l'Amérique du Sud. Ceux qui ont visité le vapeur en ont été enchantés, et chaque visiteur se sentait pris du désir de s'embarquer immédiatement pour l'Amérique du Sud. Il est à souhaiter que les personnes des États-Unis qui ont hésité jusqu'ici à

aller dans l'Amérique du Sud à cause du mauvais service soient tentées de le faire maintenant qu'il y a ces nouveaux navires. En revanche, on espère que les Américains du Sud qui ne sont pas venus aux États-Unis pour la même raison se décideront à y venir. On sait que le meilleur moyen d'encourager des relations amicales entre différentes contrées est de voyager dans les pays les uns des autres.

AUTRES PREUVES D'INTÉRÊT MANIFESTÉ PAR LE PRÉSIDENT ROOSEVELT.

Toutes les personnes qui s'intéressent au développement de relations plus intimes entre les États-Unis et l'Amérique Latine ont été heureuses de voir la manière dont le Président ROOSEVELT a parlé du Bureau International dans son message, que nous avons reproduit dans le dernier numéro du BULLETIN. De plus, le Président a écrit récemment à M. ROWE, professeur à l'Université de Pennsylvanie, une lettre dans laquelle il montre les grands avantages qui peuvent résulter d'une association intellectuelle plus étroite entre l'Amérique du Nord et l'Amérique du Sud et aussi combien il s'intéresse aux projets que l'on a faits pour arriver à ce but. On reproduit dans une autre partie de ce numéro du BULLETIN la lettre de M. ROOSEVELT.

PROCHAINE CONFÉRENCE DU LAC MOHONK.

M. H. G. PHILLIPS, secrétaire de la Conférence sur l'Arbitrage International du Lac Mohonk, fait savoir au Bureau que la session pour l'année 1908 aura lieu les 20, 21 et 22 mai, et que l'on a l'intention de s'occuper beaucoup des affaires pan-américaines. Il espère que le Bureau et le Conseil d'Administration s'intéresseront tout spécialement à cette conférence et se feront représenter aux délibérations. Dans sa lettre à ce sujet M. PHILLIPS dit: "Je pense que l'on peut assurer que l'attention attirée par la session pan-américaine de l'année dernière a été d'un grand avantage à la cause générale de l'arbitrage, et que si l'on donne assez de publicité à la session de cette année elle produira encore de meilleurs résultats."

BUREAU COLOMBIEN DE RENSEIGNEMENTS.

M. RAFAEL REYES, Président de la République de Colombie, et M. A. VASQUEZ COBO, Ministre des Affaires Étrangères du même pays, ont établi à Bogota, un bureau central de renseignements avec succursales à Londres, Paris, Bruxelles, Hambourg et New York. Ils ont fait ainsi un grand pas en avant pour mieux faire connaître

la Colombie au monde entier. Dans le décret qu'il a publié le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères fait savoir, que l'on trouvera dans ces succursales des journaux et autres publications d'intérêt général pouvant renseigner le public en Europe et aux États-Unis au sujet de la Colombie et des occasions qu'il y a pour le placement de capitaux étrangers. Le Ministre ajoute aussi que ce Bureau de renseignements aura pour correspondant le Bureau International des Républiques Américaines établi à Washington et il demande que ce dernier veuille bien aider autant que possible le Bureau colombien dans cette œuvre importante.

CONDITIONS COMMERCIALES DE LA COLOMBIA.

Le rapport sur les conditions commerciales de la Colombie, préparé par M. Charles M. Pepper, agent spécial du Département du Commerce et du Travail, et publié dernièrement par le Bureau des Manufactures, est très intéressant et paraît au moment opportun. Il discute soigneusement tous les faits au sujet du commerce, de l'industrie, des ressources de la Colombie et des avantages qui s'y présentent. Tous ces renseignements sont nécessaires à ceux qui comptent entrer en relations commerciales avec ce pays ou y faire des placements de capitaux. M. Pepper s'est rendu en Colombie et a fait une étude sérieuse des conditions actuelles avant d'écrire ce rapport. Il continue ses recherches dans l'Équateur, au Pérou et dans d'autres pays sud-américains sur lesquels il fera des rapports similaires.

ASSOCIATION NATIONALE DES MANUFACTURIERS.

L'Association nationale des Manufacturiers, qui a son siège social situé Broadway No. 170, New York, et qui a pour président M. James W. Van Cleave de Saint Louis, Missouri, va donner un nouvel assor à une section secondaire de son organisation qui est d'une grande importance. La revue "American Industries" décrit dans son numéro du mois de décembre comment l'Association compte fournir à ses membres tous les renseignements qu'ils pourront désirer au sujet des conditions commerciales des pays étrangers. En même temps on fait savoir que les commerçants étrangers pourront toujours recevoir, à titre gracieux, les reseignements dont ils ont besoin au sujet du commerce et de l'industrie. Si un exportateur ou commerçant de l'Amérique du Sud désire entrer en relations commerciales avec une maison des États-Unis, il peut écrire à l'Association Nationale des Manufacturiers et recevoir les données dont il a besoin au sujet des maisons avec lesquelles il veut entrer en communication. Cette Association contribuera beaucoup à encourager le commerce entre

les États-Unis et les Républiques latino-américaines. Le Bureau apprécie l'offre de coopération que l'Association lui a faite pour encourager le commerce pan-américain et il sera toujours heureux de fournir tous les renseignements, dont il dispose, aux membres de l'Association qui désirent entrer en relations d'affaires avec les commerçants de l'Amérique Latine.

PARTICIPATION DU BUREAU À LA TROISIÈME CONVENTION SANITAIRE INTERNATIONALE.

D'après le rapport préparé par M. FRANCISCO J. YANES, Secrétaire du Bureau et délégué de celle institution à la Troisième Convention Sanitaire Internationale qui a eu lieu à Mexico pendant le mois de décembre 1907, on voit la part active prise par le Bureau dans cette convention. Ce rapport, qui est publié dans ce numéro du BULLETIN, montre non seulement l'intérêt de l'Amérique Latine au sujet des conditions hygiéniques modernes, mais aussi son appréciation toujours croissante du travail fait par le Bureau pan-américain à Washington.

STATISTIQUES COMMERCIALES DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE ARGENTINE.

Les chiffres fournis par le Bureau des Statistiques de la République Argentine pour les neuf premiers mois de l'année 1907 font ressortir une balance commerciale satisfaisante de $38,043,393 en faveur du pays. Les importations se sont élevées à $202,835,218 et les exportations à $240,878,811. En faisant la comparaison avec la même période de l'année précédente on remarque des deux côtés des augmentations sensibles, celle des importations étant de $5,519,704 et celle des exportations de $16,247,350.

On peut voir le développement agricole qui se continue dans le pays par le rapport officiel sur les superficies ensemencées. En effet c'est en 1907 que l'on a consacré le plus de terre à la culture du blé, du lin et de l'avoine. C'est dans tout que l'on voit régner l'esprit de progrès. Pour encourager l'industrie minière et métallurgique dans le pays on vient de passer une loi accordant pour une période de dix ans l'exemption des droits d'entrée sur les machines, les outils et tout le matériel destiné aux établissements miniers et métallurgiques, ce qui fera prendre un nouvel essor à ce genre d'industrie.

BALANCE COMMERCIALE DU BRÉSIL.

Malgré la diminution en valeur des deux principaux articles d'exportation—le café et le caoutchouc—pendant les mois d'août et de septembre 1907, la balance commerciale en faveur du pays accuse une augmentation sensible pour les neuf premiers mois de l'année comparée à celle de la même période de l'année 1906, ayant passé de $53,000,000 à $63,000,000; le total des importations s'élève à $147,000,000 et celui des exportations à $210,000,000. Des deux côtés il y a eu des augmentations sensibles sur l'année précédente et les grandes importations de machines et de matériaux pour les travaux publics ont continué jusqu'à la fin de l'année.

L'organisation d'une banque agricole au capital de $10,000,000 est une mesure importante pour encourager les industries nationales. Cette nouvelles banque doit faciliter par tous les moyens possibles le développement de l'agriculture en fournissant les fonds et le crédit pour garantir les entreprises.

Le progrès agricole du pays sera plus encouragé par l'établissement de colons japonais dans les États de Rio de Janeiro et de Sao Paulo, les autorités locales et la compagnie intéressée ayant fait des arrangements pour y faire venir des colons.

NOUVEAU MINISTRE DU CHILI AUX ÉTATS-UNIS ET AUTRES NOUVELLES DU CHILI.

Tout en souhaitant la bienvenue à Señor Don Anibal Cruz, nouveau ministre du Chili aux États-Unis, le Bureau des Républiques Américaines reconnaît les grands services rendus par le ministre précédent, Señor Walker-Martinez, qui représente actuellement la circonscription de Santiago au congrès chilien. À l'occasion de la présentation de ses lettres de créance au Président des États-Unis le 16 novembre 1907, Señor Cruz a fait connaître combien son gouvernement est désireux de maintenir les bonnes relations qui existent entre les deux pays, sentiments que M. Roosevelt a fortement appuyés dans sa réponse.

La culture du lin au Chili sera encouragée par un subside gouvernemental si le projet de loi présenté par le Président au Congrès le 25 octobre 1907 est voté. Dans le projet de loi dont il est question $450,000 sont consacrés au paiement de primes sur le lin récolté, manufacturé et exporté dans le pays pendant 12 ans.

On peut se faire une idée de la bonne situation financière du pays par les recettes douanières perçues dans les différents ports pendant les neuf premiers mois de l'année 1907. Ces recettes se sont élevées à $26,000,000, accusant une augmentation de plus de $3,000,000 sur celles de la même période de l'année précédente.

INDUSTRIES NATIONALES ET MODIFICATIONS DOUANIÈRES DE LA COLOMBIE.

On reproduit dans ce numéro du BULLETIN des renseignements précieux sur le caoutchouc et la manufacture du coton dans le pays. Ces renseignements sont extraits des rapports transmis au Département d'Etat par M. I. A. MANNING, Consul des États-Unis à Cartagène. En 1906, les expéditions de caoutchouc de Cartagène se sont élevées à 159,580 kilos, tandis que dans les neuf premiers mois de l'année 1907 on en a exporté 136,680, ce qui fait voir l'augmentation de la culture de caoutchouc dans le pays. Non seulement on établit des plantations de grande étendue, mais on prend des mesures préventives contre la destruction des arbres sauvages.

On publie aussi les diverses modifications apportées au tarif colombien pendant l'année 1907.

ENVOYÉ EXTRAORDINAIRE DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE DE COSTA-RICA AUX ÉTATS-UNIS.

Señor Don LUIS ANDERSON, un des délégués de Costa-Rica au Congrès de la Paix centro-américain tenu à Washington, a eu en même temps l'honneur d'être nommé Envoyé extraordinaire et Ministre plénipotentiaire de Costa-Rica en mission spéciale aux États-Unis. Il a été reçu en cette qualité le 12 novembre 1907 par M. ROOSEVELT, Président des États-Unis, à qui il a présenté les salutations cordiales de M. GONZÁLEZ VIQUEZ, Président de la République, ainsi que celles du Gouvernement et du peuple de Costa-Rica.

AUTRES NOUVELLES DE COSTA-RICA.

Par suite d'un décret présidentiel en date du 2 décembre 1907, on a établi des comices agricoles spéciaux afin d'encourager et de développer l'agriculture dans les différents départements, et il est à désirer qu'on puisse faire hausser la valeur industrielle des autres produits indigènes autant qu'on l'a fait pour celle des bananes.

Au sujet de cette dernière culture M. MERRY, Ministre des États-Unis, fait savoir que par suite du refus des grandes compagnies intéressées dans la culture et l'expédition de ce produit d'accepter le droit d'exportation de 1 cent imposé récemment sur chaque régime de bananes (la loi ayant été faite sujette à cette acceptation), l'état de l'industrie reste tel qu'il était en tant qu'il est question du droit d'exportation.

RÉSULTATS DU RECENSEMENT CUBAIN.

D'après le recensement de Cuba fait en 1907, la population s'élève à 2,028,282 habitants contre 1,572,845 en 1899, les provinces de la Havane et de Santa Clara ayant le plus grand nombre d'habitants. L'immigration pour l'année fiscale 1906–7 montre une diminution sur celle de l'année précédente qui s'élevait au chiffre de 23,080.

AUTRES NOUVELLES DE CUBA.

Les recettes douanières encaissées au port de la Havane pendant l'année 1907 se sont élevées à $20,005,048.12, soit une augmentation de $1,300,000 sur l'année 1906. On a voté une allocation de $350,000 pour servir à prendre des mesures sanitaires dans différentes municipalités contre la fièvre jaune.

EXPOSITION NATIONALE DE L'ÉQUATEUR.

Une exposition nationale aura lieu à Quito le 10 août 1809 pour célébrer le centenaire du soulèvement pour l'indépendance dans l'Amérique du Sud. Le décret ordonnant la célébration a été publié en octobre 1907 par M. ALFARO, Président de la République. L'exposition comprendra non seulement les produits des forêts, de l'élevage, de l'agriculture et des mines, ainsi que les chemins de fer, mais il y aura aussi des sections consacrées aux faits historiques et artistiques d'intérêt international. Le Gouvernement a offert des prix pour la meilleure composition traitant de sujets patriotiques et historiques. On a fait des arrangements pour la participation des pays étrangers à l'exposition.

COMMERCE DU GUATÉMALA ET AVANTAGES COMMERCIAUX.

L'ouverture au Guatémala de la route commerciale inter-océanique allant de San José sur le Pacifique à Puerto Barrios sur l'Atlantique, dont l'inauguration a eu lieu le 19 janvier 1908, augmente d'une manière très sensible l'intérêt et la valeur de la brochure publiée récemment par Señor VICTOR AGUILAR PELAEZ, Consul du Guatémala à Liverpool et à Manchester. Afin de répondre à l'intérêt qui s'est manifesté récemment au sujet de tout ce qui touche cette partie de l'Amérique Centrale, le BULLETIN a reproduit la plus grande partie de la brochure dont il est question. Cette brochure donne un résumé du commerce et des conditions économiques du pays en 1906.

Il y a eu une grande fête dans la capitale du Guatémala à l'occasion de l'entrée du premier train venant de Puerto Barrios, et en commémoration de cet événement il y a une exposition nationale des productions industrielles. Des représentants spéciaux des pays étrangers ont assisté aux cérémonies qui ont eu lieu. Le chemin de fer en question facilitera grandement le transport des produits indigènes aux ports d'embarquement. Il a une longueur de 269 milles, et il est une preuve évidente du développement de la marche progressive de ce pays.

ÉTABLISSEMENT D'UNE CHAMBRE DE COMMERCE À HAÏTI.

Pour se conformer au décret présidentiel, en date du 30 novembre 1907, on a établi une chambre de commerce à Port-au-Prince dans le but d'encourager les intérêts commerciaux, agricoles, industriels et maritimes du pays. Le Gouvernement a voté une somme de $1,800 pour faire face aux frais d'installation et le Président de la République en a été nommé président honoraire. Cette Société ne se contentera pas de donner des renseignements au sujet des industries et des produits indigènes, mais de plus, elle servira d'intermédiaire pour répandre à l'intérieur du pays les renseignements qui pourraient lui être utiles.

AUGMENTATION DANS LE HONDURAS DES DROITS D'EXPORTATION SUR LES BANANES.

Afin d'améliorer dans les ports situés au nord du Honduras, les wharfs et les constructions qui en dépendent servant à l'expédition des bananes, le Gouvernement a augmenté de deux à trois centavos le droit d'exportation sur chaque régime de bananes. Cet impôt additionnel servira à faire les améliorations et changements qu'on jugera nécessaires.

LE MEXIQUE D'APRÈS LES VUES DE SON MINISTRE DES FINANCES.

Señor Licenciado José Yves Limantour, le distingué Ministre des Finances du Mexique, vient de faire paraître sur la situation financière et économique du pays son rapport annuel qui fera époque dans les annales du Mexique. Toutes les personnes qui désirent se faire une idée exacte des affaires mexicaines doivent lire le rapport qu'il a fait le 14 décembre 1907 au Congrès national. On publie dans ce numéro du Bulletin un résumé qui relate les faits les plus saillants, montrant les conditions satisfaisantes dans lesquelles se trouve cette contrée importante de l'Union pan-américaine.

Le rapport sur le commerce pendant le premier trimestre de l'année fiscale 1907–8 montre une augmentation de plus de $5,000,000 en importations et exportations, ce qui est d'autant plus satisfaisant que dans la même période des deux années fiscales précédentes il y avait une diminution dans les exportations.

Les améliorations qui sont en voie d'exécution et celles qui ne sont encore qu'à l'état de projet aux points extrêmes du chemin de fer de Tehuantepec, allant de l'Atlantique au Pacifique, excitent le plus grand intérêt parmi les promoteurs d'un moyen de communication à travers l'isthme et l'on se propose de faire de Salina Cruz et de Coatzocoalcos des ports de transbordement pour les marchandises, pouvant rivaliser avec ceux du monde entier.

MESSAGE DU PRÉSIDENT DU NICARAGUA.

Le message prononcé devant le congrès le 1er décembre 1907, par M. Zelaya, Président du Nicaragua est un document important qui renferme les vues du Pouvoir Exécutif au sujet des causes et des résultats de la récente Conférence de la Paix tenue à Washington.

La concession accordée pas le Gouvernement à MM. Guerrero et Moreira pour l'exploitation des forêts d'arbres à caoutchouc du pays pendant une durée de dix ans à partir du 10 septembre 1905, vient d'être transférée à la Compagnie Industrielle de l'Atlantique qui en continuera l'exploitation commencée par les anciens concessionnaires.

Une nouvelle loi sur les marques de fabrique, promulgée le 26 novembre 1907, a une grande portée sur la protection industrielle au Nicaragua. Elle a pour but de protéger le commerce extérieur et intérieur.

RAPPORT DE M. KELLOGG, CONSUL À COLON, PANAMA.

Dans son rapport sur le commerce de Bocas del Toro M. James C. Kellogg, consul des États-Unis à Colon, montre que les importations dans ce port pendant l'année fiscale 1907 ont augmenté sur la même période de l'année précédente, mais que les exportations ont diminué. On espère que l'expédition de bananes en Europe, en vue de laquelle on a installé des appareils frigorifiques dans les vapeurs, produira cette année des résultats complètement opposés. Ce sont les États-Unis qui ont la plus grande part dans le commerce de ce port.

BANQUE NATIONALE AU PARAGUAY.

On vient de présenter au Congrès paraguayen un projet de loi pour l'établissement d'une banque mixte avec autorisation du gouvernement. Cette organisation financière sera connue sous le nom de Banque de la République et disposera d'un capital de $20,000,000 en or. On fait voir dans ce numéro du BULLETIN les differentes opérations auxquelles se liverera cette banque.

NOUVEAU SERVICE DE VAPEURS ENTRE NEW YORK ET CALLAO.

L'inauguration d'un nouveau service de bateaux à vapeur entre New York et Callao *via* Panama sera un grand pas fait en avant dans les rapports de ces deux centres commerciaux. Cette entreprise, qui est sous la direction de la Compagnie Nationale de bateaux à vapeur et des docks flottants de Callao, a dû commencer ses voyages de très bonne heure en 1908. Le capital de cette société est de $15,000,000, outre cela, elle a reçu du gouvernement péruvien une subvention de $1,500,000.

RECETTES DOUANIÈRES DU SALVADOR.

D'après les dernières statistiques les recettes douanières du Salvador se sont élevées à $543,624.72 pour le premier trimestre de l'année 1907, et en les comparant avec celles de la même période de l'année 1906, on voit qu'il y a une diminution de $145,904.42.

RECETTES DOUANIÈRES DE L'URUGUAY.

Bien que les recettes douanières de l'Uruguay en octobre 1907 accusent une diminution légère sur celles du même mois de l'année 1906, le total pour les dix mois finissant en octobre fait ressortir une augmentation, les totaux pour les deux années—janvier à octobre—étant de $11,271,871 et de $11,006,639, respectivement.

Le Corps Législatif, en la soumettant au Gouvernement, a fait de grands changements à la loi sur l'impôt pour l'année 1908. Une des prévisions augmente de 3 à 7 pour cent l'impôt sur les primes des compagnies d'assurance étrangères.

AUGMENTATION DES DROITS D'IMPORTATION AU VENEZUELA.

Un décret gouvernemental en date du 14 novembre 1907 frappe d'une surtaxe différents produits alimentaires et des articles d'usage courant. Des modifications apportées récemment au tarif ont trait à d'autres articles.

PREMIER CONGRÈS SCIENTIFIQUE PAN-AMÉRICAIN.

Le Premier Congrès Scientifique Latino-Américain a eu lieu en 1898 à Buénos-Ayres, capitale de la République Argentine. La seconde session du Congrès a eu lieu en 1901 à Montévidéo, capitale de l'Uruguay, et la troisième en 1905 à Rio de Janeiro, capitale du Brésil.

On a maintenant décidé de tenir la quatrième réunion à Santiago pendant les dix premiers jours du mois de décembre de 1908, et le Gouvernement chilien a envoyé des invitations à cet effet.

De plus, on s'est décidé à étendre la sphère d'action du Congrès et à y faire participer toutes les Républiques Américaines; dans ce but le Gouvernement chilien a envoyé une invitation officielle aux Etats-Unis. En même temps, on a changé le nom du Quatrième Congrès Scientifique Latino-Américain en celui de Premier Congrès Scientifique Panaméricain, dénomination plus en rapport avec le grand nombre de pays qui en feront partie.

M. Roosevelt, Président de la République, en transmettant au Congrès le rapport que M. Root, Secrétaire d'Etat, a fait à ce sujet, a appuyé fortement la demande de M. Root, afin que les Etats-Unis donnent une indemnité suffisante pour se faire représenter à ce Congrès d'une manière convenable.

LETTRE IMPORTANTE DU PRÉSIDENT ROOSEVELT.

M. L. S. Rowe, professeur à l'Université de Pennsylvanie, un des délégués des États-Unis à la Troisième Conférence Internationale Américaine qui a eu lieu à Rio de Janeiro au mois de juillet 1906, a fait à l'issue de cette conférence un voyage d'un an et demi dans l'Amérique du Sud pour étudier d'une manière sérieuse les conditions économiques, sociales et politiques des différentes républiques sœurs qui se trouvent au sud de l'isthme.

Depuis son retour, M. Rowe a eu avec M. Roosevelt, Président des États-Unis, plusieurs entrevues sur le but et les résultats de son voyage et en particulier sur les projets qu'il a faits pour le développement de relations intellectuelles plus suivies entre les Etats-Unis et les républiques de l'Amérique du Sud. Voici la lettre d'approbation que M. le Président Roosevelt a écrite au distingué professeur:

"Cher Monsieur Rowe: C'est avec le plus vif intérêt que je me suis entretenu avec vous au sujet des résultats de votre voyage dans l'Amérique du Sud et aussi au sujet des différents projets que vous

avez formés pour développer des relations intellectuelles plus suivies entre le nord et le sud du continent américain. En plus des relations amicales qui existent entre les Gouvernements des Républiques Américaines, il me semble qu'il est de la plus grande importance d'établir des relations personnelles des plus étroites entre les hommes les plus en vue, intellectuellement parlant, dans ces différents pays. Des relations de ce genre contribuent grandement à faire disparaître les préjugés mal fondés et les malentendus qui surgissent faute de se connaître mutuellement. Mises en rapport entre elles, toutes les Républiques de l'hémisphère occidental peuvent apprendre et enseigner tout à la fois.

"Pour arriver à ce but si important, les collèges américains du continent américain sont sûrement les meilleurs agents. Il y a un grand nombre de problèmes économiques, sociaux et industriels, sans parler de ceux qui sont purement scientifiques, dont le caractère est essentiellement américain et l'étendue d'action tout à fait continentale. Par l'entremise des étudiants des différentes nations et ceux qui s'y livrent à des recherches, l'expérience ainsi accumulée de notre hémisphère peut avoir une grande portée sur ces problèmes et en faciliter par là même la solution heureuse. L'union de pensée et d'action suscitée de cette manière contribuera à rendre de plus grands services aux différents pays en rétrécissant de plus en plus les liens d'amitié qui unissent déjà les peuples de l'hémisphère occidental.

"En vous souhaitant la plus grande réussite dans cette entreprise je vous prie de recevoir l'expression de ma plus haute considération.

"THÉODORE ROOSEVELT."

RÉPUBLIQUE ARGENTINE.

EXEMPTION DE DROITS D'ENTRÉE POUR LE MATÉRIEL DESTINÉ AUX ÉTABLISSEMENTS MINIERS ET MÉTALLURGIQUES.

En vertu d'une loi du Congrès Argentin du 30 septembre dernier, sont exonérés des droits de douane pour un terme de dix années: Les machines, les outils et tout le matériel nécessaire pour l'installation et l'exploitation des établissements miniers et métallurgiques qui s'établiront ou qui existent déjà dans la République. Cette exemption concerne entre autres le matériel destiné aux perforations faites dans le but d'utiliser les eaux du sous-sol.

Les dépenses occasionnées par la vérification du matériel introduit—vérification qui devra être chaque fois demandée par écrit à la douane compétente—seront à la charge de ceux qui réclament l'exonération des droits.

COMMERCE EXTÉRIEUR PENDANT LES NEUF PREMIERS MOIS DE L'ANNÉE 1907.

Le Bureau des Statistiques du Gouvernement argentin vient de publier son bulletin régulier, "El Comercio Exterior Argentin," sur le commerce extérieur pendant les neuf premiers mois de l'année 1907. La valeur des importations pour cette période s'est élevée à $202,835,218 en or, ce qui fait ressortir une augmentation de $5,519,704 sur les chiffres de la même période de l'année 1906. Les exportations se sont élevées à $240,878,611, soit une augmentation de $16,247,350 sur les chiffres de la même période de l'année précédente. Les importations soumises aux droits de douane se sont élevées à $128,184,517 et celles qui ont été admises en franchise de droits à $74,650,701, l'or et l'argent, y figurent pour $23,440,946. Sur la liste des exportations les articles soumis aux droits de douane se sont élevés à $868 et les exportations admises en franchise de droits se sont élevées à $240,877,743, les expéditions d'or et d'argent se montant à $281,750.

D'après les chiffres ci-dessus on voit que la balance commerciale en faveur du pays s'est élevée, pendant les neuf mois dont il est question, à $38,043,393, tandis que les importations d'or et d'argent ont dépassé de $23,059,193 les exportations.

Voici, par ordre d'importance, les pays exportateurs ainsi que la valeur de leurs exportations: Angleterre, $71,964,236; Allemagne, $32,131,549; États-Unis, $26,476,423; France, $18,447,927; Italie, $17,577,375; Belgique, $11,471,881; Brésil, $5,371,721; Espagne, $5,191,250; Colonies anglaises, $2,641,515; Uruguay, $1,874,291; Autriche-Hongrie, $1,731,721; Suisse, $1,567,371; Pays-Bas, $1,162,333; Paraguay, $983,143; Canada, $687,141; Pérou, $531,843; Chine, $404,409; Cuba, $386,964; Norvège, $336,171; Chili, $313,955; Suède, $280,076; Russie, $261,815; Bolivie, $105,457; Australie, $44,418; Danemark, $38,744; Grèce, $31,555; Turquie, $30,044; Colonies hollandaises, $30,039; Équateur, $23,528; Afrique, $15,997; Venezuela, $9,633; Colonies nord-américanes, $9,355; Colonies françaises, $6,875; Mexique, $3,622; Colombie, $2,493; Roumanie, $1,675; Égypte, $1,103; Salvador, $708; Guatémala, $689; Perse, $547; République Dominicaine, $287.

En faisant la comparaison avec les neuf premiers mois de l'année 1906, les pays suivants font voir une augmentation dans leurs exportations ainsi que dans la valeur de ces dernières: Allemagne, $3,617,968; Royaume-Uni, $2,803,301; Belgique, $2,262,096; Autriche-Hongrie, $545,587; Uruguay, $520,521; Brésil, $598,085; Paraguay, $84,318, et Bolivie, $10,862.

D'un autre côté on remarque une diminution dans la valeur des exportations des pays suivants: France, $2,216,698; Italie, $1,009,397; États-Unis, $719,829; Espagne, $358,155; Chili, $132,410; Pays-Bas, $27,344, et Afrique, $5,265.

Voici par ordre d'importance les pays importateurs ainsi que la valeur de leurs importations: Angleterre, $40,561,378; Allemagne, $28,784,527; France, $28,351,594; Belgique, $24,637,880; Brésil, $10,388,686; États-Unis, $8,627,941; Pays-Bas, $3,526,970; Italie, $3,283,705; Uruguay, $2,839,833; Chili, $1,586,677; Afrique, $1,326,-650; Espagne, $1,287,154; Norvège, $1,061,144; Suède, $665,149; Bolivie, $543,853; Autriche-Hongrie, $521,492; Cuba, $217,811; Paraguay, $117,139; Pérou, $90,613; Danemark, $89,238; Colonies anglaises, $45,197; Portugal, $25,401; Colonies françaises, $664.

Voici les différents pays qui accusent une augmentation dans leurs importations: Angleterre, $9,300,538; Belgique, $5,027,366; France, $3,711,702; Brésil, $1,598,683; Pays-Bas, $1,189,856; Autriche-Hongrie, $486,951; Chili, $430,984, et Bolivie, $246,076.

Voici les différents pays qui accusent une diminution dans leurs importations: Afrique, $1,957,171; États-Unis, $1,701,312; Italie, $1,526,770; Uruguay, $977,049; Espagne, $574,033; Allemagne, $399,408, et Paraguay, $17,709.

C'est pendant les neuf mois de l'année 1907 que les importations ont atteint le chiffre le plus élevé dans le cours de la période décennale 1898–1907. Quant aux exportations, dans la même période, elle n'ont été dépassées qu'en 1905, époque à laquelle elles ont atteint le chiffre de $247,110,133.

D'après les chiffres ci-dessus les prévisions officielles du commerce d'importation pour l'année entière donnent le chiffre de $268,655,217, contre $269,970,521 en 1906. D'un autre côté les prévisions officielles pour le commerce d'exportation de l'année entière donnent le chiffre de $318,622,501, contre $292,253,829 pour l'année 1906.

Voici les importations pendant les neuf premiers mois de l'année 1907, par espèces et valeurs, montrant les augmentations ou les diminutions qui en ressortent en les comparant à la période correspondante de 1906:

Articles.	Neuf premiers mois de 1907.	Comparaison avec l'année 1906.
Animaux sur pied	$1,282,472	− $84,177
Produits alimentaires	14,488,526	+ 1,427,250
Tabac et ses produits	3,334,241	− 313,171
Vins et liqueurs	8,638,272	− 122,005
Textiles	36,774,332	− 7,292,130
Huiles, etc	5,708,485	+ 152,479
Produits chimiques et pharmaceutiques	5,758,459	+ 53,620
Couleurs et teintures	1,090,496	− 77,482
Bois et articles en bois	4,142,710	+ 99,639
Papier et articles en papier	3,860,608	+ 460,903
Cuir et articles en cuir	1,519,115	− 259,532
Fer et acier et objets en fer et acier	21,881,358	− 3,045,906
Autres métaux	5,095,933	− 972,505
Outils agricoles	10,403,024	− 1,394,407
Voitures et ses parties	40,704,872	+16,270,779
Produits céramiques	14,852,952	− 412,055
Matériaux pour la construction	15,784,492	+ 694,040
Appareils électriques	2,487,013	+ 287,154
Articles divers	5,020,858	+ 47,210

Voici les exportations pendant les neuf premiers mois de l'année 1907, par espèces et valeurs, montrant les augmentations ou les diminutions qui en ressortent, en les comparant à la période correspondante de 1906:

Articles.	Neuf premiers mois de 1907.	Comparaison avec l'année 1906.
Produits animaux	$88,246,566	$1,464,958
Produits agricoles	146,406,061	+19,524,731
Produits des forêts	3,966,755	— 805,130
Produits des mines	490,619	+ 302,712
Produits de la chasse	609,565	— 92,765
Divers	1,159,045	— 1,217,240

RECETTES PROVENANT D'IMPÔTS INTÉRIEURS PENDANT L'ANNÉE 1907.

Les recettes provenant d'impôts intérieurs pendant les neuf premiers mois de l'année 1907 se sont élevées à $31,493,006.17 papier et $21,641 or, contre $28,744,276.68 papier et $19,634.16 or pendant la même période de l'année précédente.

STATISTIQUES DU BÉTAIL SUR PIED.

Voici, d'après les données publiées par le Bureau d'Économie Rurale au Ministère de l'Agriculture de la République Argentine, le nombre total de bêtes sur pied, calculé approximativement selon certains faits dans les provinces et autres renseignements provenant de même source:

Bœufs	25,844,811	Mulets et ânes	545,870
Moutons	77,580,500	Cochons	2,845,700
Chevaux	5,462,170	Chèvres	2,566,800

CULTURE DU COTON.

D'après les renseignements qu'on a pu se procurer au Ministère de l'Agriculture, il y a 4,000 hectares de terre, soit environ 10,000 acres, consacrés à la culture du coton. Ces terres se trouvent principalement dans les provinces de Corrientes, de Santa Fé, de La Rioja et de Tucuman. Pendant les mois de juin et de juillet 1907 les exportations de ce produit en Angleterre se sont élevées à 46,000 kilogrammes (101,200 livres):

Il n'y a que deux filatures en activité dans le pays, les ateliers de tissage sont au nombre de 62, employant en grande partie la laine importée.

Les derniers renseignements à ce sujet indiquent que le climat et le sol de la République Argentine conviennent à cette culture, et d'après l'avis d'experts en cette matière, on pourrait employer les Indiens pour suppléer au manque de bras.

BRÉSIL.

COMMERCE EXTÉRIEUR PENDANT LES NEUF PREMIERS MOIS DE L'ANNÉE 1907.

Les statistiques du commerce extérieur du Brésil pour les neuf premiers mois de l'année 1907 (janvier–septembre), montrent un total de 468,559:938$ ($147,000,000) pour les importations, contre 337,984:983$ ($114,500,000) dans les mêmes mois de l'année 1906 et un total de 669,286:556$ ($210,500,000), contre 498,691:572$ ($168,500,000) pour les exportations dans la même période de l'année précédente. On y voit donc une augmentation de $22,000,000 dans les importations et $42,000,000 dans les exportations pour les neuf mois de l'année 1907, et la balance commerciale en faveur du pays s'est élevée à $62,000,000, contre $53,000,000 pour les mêmes mois de l'année 1906.

Le chiffre énorme de cette balance commerciale provient des sept premiers mois de l'année 1907, car dans les mois d'août et de septembre il y a une diminution dans les exportations du café et du caoutchouc. D'un autre côté les importations pendant les deux mois dont il est question ont continué à augmenter par suite de la demande de machines et de matériaux nécessaires aux nombreux et importants travaux publics en voie de construction au Brésil.

RECETTES DOUANIÈRES POUR LES NEUF MOIS DE L'ANNÉE 1907.

Les recettes douanières des différents bureaux de douane de la République Brésilienne pour les neuf mois—janvier à octobre—de l'année 1907, se sont élevées à 218,555$000 ($72,123,150), contre 175,177$000 ($57,808,410) dans la même période de l'année précédente, soit une augmentation de plus de $14,000,000.

CHILI.

RECETTES DOUANIÈRES POUR LES NEUF PREMIERS MOIS DE L'ANNÉE 1907.

Les recettes totales des douanes chiliennes pour les neuf premiers mois finissant en septembre 1907 se sont élevées à 78,371,977.96 *pesos* (environ $36,000,000), ce qui fait ressortir une augmentation de 9,270,839.31 *pesos* (environ $3,000,000) sur la même période de l'année précédente.

FONDS D'ÉTAT DÉPOSÉS DANS LES BANQUES.

D'après la "Revista Comercial" du 12 octobre 1907, les fonds d'État déposés dans les différentes banques chiliennes se sont élevées au 30 septembre à 53,440,677.32 *pesos* (environ $18,800,000).

Voici le nom des banques où ces fonds ont été déposés:

	Pesos.		*Pesos.*
Banco de Chile	18,018,863.96	Banco Unión Comercial	71,508.66
Banco de la República	6,025,809.72	Bank of A. Edwards & Co.	1,644,875.07
Banco Nacional	9,951,364.72	Banco de La Serena	210,332.53
Banco de Santiago	3,855,968.09	Banco Mobiliario	3,490,372.89
Banco Popular	751,412.44	Banco de Talca	508,567.42
Banco Minero	20,817.40	Banco de Melipilla	80,337.12
Banco Español de Chile	6,638,420.43	Banco Hipotecario de Valparaiso	166,533.08
Banco Italiano	1,058,915.73		
Banco de Concepción	785,385.65	Banco de Ñuble	41,650.99
Banco Industrial de Chile	62,441.42	Banco de Punta Arenas	57,100.00

EMPRUNT DE £1,100,000.

Le 16 septembre 1907 le Gouvernement chilien, représenté par son Ministre Plénipotentiaire à Londres, a contracté avec MM. N. M. Rotschild et Fils un emprunt de £1,100,000 qui sera émis en bons du trésor payables à la banque de ladite compagnie à Londres le 24 mars 1909.

AUGMENTATION DANS LES IMPORTATIONS DE COLIS-POSTAUX 1902–1906.

Voici, d'après des données officielles reçues dernièrement du Chili, l'augmentation des importations de colis-postaux pendant les cinq années de 1902–1906:

Années.	Valeur des colis-postaux reçus.	Recettes provenant des colis-postaux.
1902	$662,381	$135,463
1903	839,742	118,902
1904	893,446	196,752
1905	877,869	300,421
1906	1,112,965	349,803

RECETTES DOUANIÈRES POUR LES HUIT ET NEUF PREMIERS MOIS DE L'ANNÉE 1907.

Les bureaux de douane du Chili ont perçu pendant les huit premiers mois de l'année 1907 un total de 70,117,153.75 *pesos* ($23,372,384.58), contre 61,839,696.89 *pesos* ($30,613,232.29) pour l'année 1906, soit une augmentation de 8,277,456.86 *pesos* ($2,759,152.25). Les recettes pour le mois d'août 1907 se sont élevées à 9,082,241.81 *pesos* ($3,024,080.27), contre 6,782,166.81 *pesos* ($2,260,722.27), pour le même mois de l'année 1906.

Les recettes pendant les neuf premiers mois de l'année 1907 se sont élevées à 78,371,977.96 *pesos* ($26,123,992.65), contre 68,963,529.72 *pesos* ($22,987,843.24) dans les mêmes mois de l'année 1906, soit une augmentation de 9,408,448.24 *pesos* ($3,136,149.41). Au mois de septembre 1907 les recettes se sont élevées à 8,254,824.21 *pesos* ($2,418,274.73), contre 7,123,832.83 *pesos* ($2,341,277.61) dans le même mois de l'année 1906.

COLOMBIE.

IMPORTATION DE MAÏS EN FRANCHISE DE DROITS.

Un décret du Président de la République de Colombie, en date du 5 décembre 1907, prolonge jusqu'au 1e mai 1908 la validité du décret No. 1345 du 5 novembre 1907, exemptant de droits de douane le maïs égrené importé par le port de Riochacha à destination de la Goagira. Cette exemption affecte spécialement les importations faites depuis le 1er novembre 1907 jusqu'au 1er mai 1908. Le maïs importé par les ports de l'Atlantique est exempt aussi du paiement des droits de douane depuis le 1er décembre 1907 jusqu'au 1er ma 1908.

MODIFICATIONS DOUANIÈRES.

["Diario Oficial" du 18 avril 1907.]

ARTICLE UNIQUE. Jusqu'à ce qu'en exécution des dispositions de la loi 59 de 1905, on ait établi dans tout le pays la circulation de la monnaie d'or, est autorisée l'importation par les ports de Tumaco, Buenaventura, Ipiales, Arauca et Cucuta des monnaies d'argent nationales ou étrangères au titre de 0.900, pourvu qu'elles ne soient pas démonétisées.

Paragraphe. Sont en conséquence suspendues les dispositions des articles 14 et 16 de la loi 59 de 1905 à partir de la date de la publication du présent décret dans le "Diario Oficial."

["Dairio Oficial" du 24 avril 1907.]

ARTICLE 1er. A partir de la date de la publication du présent décret, le payement des droits d'exportation sur les métaux précieux peut également s'effectuer dans les administrations départementales des rentes réorganisées.

ART. 2. Les certificats relatifs au payement de ces droits, délivrés par les administrateurs desdites rentes, feront foi par devant les administrateurs des douanes.

ART. 3. Les exportateurs d'or, d'argent ou de platine présenteront en temps opportun au bureau compétent des rentes réorganisées un manifeste en triple expédition, contenant les indications suivantes:

1°. Les marques des caisses, groups (*portes*), barres ou lingots dont se compose l'envoi d'or;

2°. Le nombre ou la quantité des colis et leur numéro qui différera pour chaque colis;

3°. Les noms de l'expéditeur et du destinataire;

4°. Le lieu de destination de l'envoi;

5°. L'espèce du métal, avec désignation de son poids d'après le système métrique;

6°. La somme pour laquelle l'envoi a été assuré et sa valeur commerciale.

ART. 4. Est ainsi complété l'article 3 du décret No. 1328 du 16 novembre 1905.

["Diario Oficial" du 2 mai 1907.]

Attendu que les droits d'entrée sur les marchandises importées par les douanes de Buenaventura et de Tumaco sont moins élevés que ceux imposés à l'entrée à Barranquilla et, qu'en raison des facilités de transport moins onéreuses et des droits de douane plus avantageux, la marchandise importée par Buenaventura et Tumaco peut, étant introduite dans les Départements du Tolima et Huila, faire concurrence à celle importée par Barranquilla, au préjudice des recettes de la douane et des intérêts du commerce, il a été décrété ce qui suit:

ARTICLE 1er. Est déclarée de contrebande la marchandise qui, des Départements de Cauca et Narino, est introduite dans les Départements du Tolima et Huila ou transite à travers ces Départements.

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ART. 3. Le présent décret entrera en vigueur quinze jours après sa publication dans le "Diario Oficial."

["Diario Oficial" du 4 mai 1907.]

ART. 9. Les produits du sol et de l'industrie de l'une des deux Républiques, exportés par les ports de l'autre, n'acquitteront pas à leur sortie des droits autres ou plus élevés, de toutes espèces ou dénominations, nationaux, municipaux ou locaux, que ceux qu'acquittent ou acquitteraient à leur exportation les mêmes produits du sol et de l'industrie de la République par les ports de laquelle ils sortent.

ART. 10. L'importation ou l'exportation dans les ports ou par les ports de l'une des deux Républiques des produits du sol et de l'industrie ne sera pas interdite; cependant la liberté d'importer ne pourra exceptionnellement pas s'appliquer aux articles soumis ou qui seraient soumis au régime de la régie ou dont la fabrication ou la vente sont ou seraient réservées en vertu de lois, au Gouvernement de l'une ou de l'autre des deux Républiques, pas plus qu'aux produits des autres pays dont l'importation est prohibée, lesdits articles étant également prohibés lorsqu'ils proviennent d'autres pays.

ART. 11. Les produits du sol et de l'industrie des deux Républiques, dont le commerce est autorisé ou dont la fabrication ou la vente n'est pas ou ne serait pas réservée en vertu de lois au Gouvernement de l'une ou de l'autre des deux Républiques (lesdits articles étant également prohibés lorsqu'ils proviennent d'autres pays), n'acquitteront pas de droits ou impôts quelconques nationaux ou municipaux à la sortie ou à l'entrée par leurs frontières de terre; lesdits articles ne paieront pas, comme taxe de transport ou d'accise dans le lieu de consommation, des droits ou impôts autres ou plus élevés que les droits ou impôts nationaux, municipaux ou locaux frappant ou qui frapperaient les produits nationaux du sol et de l'industrie de même espèce. En d'autres

termes, aucun des deux pays ne pourra soumettre à des droits d'exportation les produits de son sol, parmi lesquels est compris le bétail, ni ceux de son industrie, exportés à destination de l'autre pays, ni à des droits d'importation les produits de même espèce provenant de l'autre pays.

Ainsi que cela a été dit, la franchise réciproque établie dans la présente clause ne s'étend pas aux articles soumis au régime de la régie ni à ceux faisant l'objet d'un monopole dans l'un ou l'autre des deux pays.

ART. 12. Les produits du sol et de l'industrie des nations étrangères, introduits de l'un des deux pays contractants dans l'autre, acquitteront les droits qui leur sont applicables d'après le tarif général.

["Diario Oficial" du 4 mai 1907.]

Les commis voyageurs pourront réexporter leurs échantillons par les douanes de leur choix, moyennant l'observation des formalités suivantes:

1°. Les administrateurs de la douane fixeront les droits d'entrée applicables aux échantillons qu'importent les commis voyageurs et sursoieront à la perception de ces droits moyennant caution garantissant le paiement en douane du montant de ces droits, si les échantillons ne sont pas réexportés par lesdits voyageurs dans le délai de douze mois.

2°. Les commis voyageurs devront conserver le bordereau de douane établissant les droits d'importation auxquels sont soumis les échantillons qu'ils introduisent, afin de pouvoir le présenter au chef de la douane du port choisi pour leur sortie, et que ce fonctionnaire soit en mesure de constater si les échantillons qui lui sont présentés sont les mêmes que ceux désignés dans le bordereau d'importation.

3°. Après vérification du poids des échantillons et constatation de leur identité, l'administrateur de la douane déchargera la caution fournie, et, si l'exportation des échantillons ne s'effectue pas par le même port que l'importation, ledit fonctionnaire en donnera avis à l'administrateur de la douane d'entrée des échantillons, pour que celui-ci procède à la décharge de la caution.

4°. Si l'exportation des échantillons ne s'est pas effectuée dans le délai d'un an prescrit pour leur réexportation, les administrateurs de la douane procèderont à la perception des droits d'entrée dûs.

["Diario Oficial" du 10 mai 1907.]

ARTICLE UNIQUE. Est différée au 1er janvier 1908, la mise en vigueur du décret No. 476 du 22 avril 1907 relatif à la contrebande.

["Diario Oficial" du 12 janvier 1907.]

Le vin de Saint-Raphaël sera assimilé aux vins rouges et rangé dans la quatrième classe du tarif.

["Diario Oficial" du 18 janvier 1907.]

Les rouleaux en bois avec papier perforé, pour pianolas et autres instruments analogues, seront assimilés aux parties d'instruments dits orgues et pianos rangés dans la sixième classe du tarif.

["Diario Oficial" du 18 janvier 1907.]

Ne pourront être considérés de production nationale les articles manufacturés dans le pays avec des matières premières étrangères, pas plus que ceux travaillés ou manufacturés en dehors du pays avec des matières premières d'origine colombienne.

["Diario Oficial" du 28 janvier 1907.]

ARTICLE 1er. Sont exemptés des droits d'importation tous les engrais chimiques et les produits suivants servant à leur fabrication: Phosphates de chaux et superphosphates, c'est-à-dire, phosphate traité par l'acide sulfurique; sels de potasse, tels que chlorure de potassium connu dans l'industrie sous le nom de muriate de potasse, sulfate de potasse et kaïnite; engrais azotés, tels que nitrate de soude et sulfate d'ammoniaque, calciocyanamide ou cyanamide de calcium, également connu sous le nom de chaux nitrogénée; sulfate et bisulfure de carbone, et bitume ou vernis pour carton imperméable ou tropénol.

ART. 2. Est exempté de la surtaxe de 70 pour cent le fil métallique pour clôtures. Il est toutefois entendu que cette diminution s'effectuera par dixièmes, conformément aux dispositions de l'article 205 de la Constitution.

Paragraphe. Est modifié par l'article 1er du présent décret le quatrième alinéa de l'article unique du décret No. 1026 du 28 août 1906.

["Diario Oficial" du 6 février 1907.]

ARTICLE UNIQUE. Sont exemptés du paiement des droits d'entrée les matériaux importés pour le compte de la municipalité de Barranquilla et destinés à l'éclairage électrique, au marché public et au numérotage et désignation des rues de ladite ville.

Paragraphe. Les matériaux dont il s'agit seront également exemptés du paiement de l'impôt.

["Diario Oficial" du 19 février 1907.]

ARTICLE UNIQUE. A partir de la date de la publication du présent décret, les droits de douane à percevoir à l'importation des marchandises par le port de Tumaco seront acquittés en argent au titre de 0.835.

Paragraphe. Le présent décret, qui sera communiqué à l'administrateur de la douane de Tumaco par télégraphe, ne modifie pas le décret No. 717 du 16 juin 1906, en vertu duquel les droits applicables à l'importation des marchandises à Pasto doivent être perçus en argent.

["Diario Oficial" du 2 mars 1907.]

Sont exemptés du paiement des droits, non seulement les échantillons de tissus en petits coupons, mais aussi toutes les marchandises, telles que papier, carton, cuir, fer émaillé, plaques de verre étamées ou non, pourvu qu'ils soient présentés en petits morceaux, que, de l'avis de l'administrateur de la douane, ils n'aient aucune application et que, conformément au tarif, ils ne soient pas importés en quantité supérieure à 25 kilogrammes.

COSTA RICA.

ÉTABLISSEMENT DE COMICES AGRICOLES.

Afin d'encourager le développement de l'agriculture sur le territoire de la République de Costa-Rica, le Président, dans un décret en date du 2 décembre 1907, a donné l'ordre d'établir des comices agricoles dans les différents cantons excepté dans celui de San-José. Ces comices se composeront de sept membres, et ils seront placés sous la direction de la Société Nationale d'Agriculture. Ils sont fondés dans le but d'encourager et de développer l'agriculture dans leurs cantons respectifs.

CUBA.

DÉCISIONS DOUANIÈRES AU SUJET DE MARCHANDISES PERDUES.

La "Gaceta Oficial" du 19 octobre 1907 publie une circulaire disant que les droits de douane ne doivent être perçus que sur les marchandises actuellement importées et débarquées dans l'île et non sur les marchandises perdues, soit en route, soit au déchargement des *cargo-boats*, même quand ces marchandises sont mentionnées sur le manifeste ou connaissement. Cette loi annule toutes les circulaires contraires à ce règlement.

MOUVEMENT DE L'IMMIGRATION PENDANT L'ANNÉE FISCALE 1906-7.

D'après les chiffres publiés dernièrement par la Division des Statistiques du Département des Finances de Cuba, il est arrivé dans les ports de l'île, pendant l'année fiscale 1906-7, 29,572 immigrants, dont 23,831 hommes et 5,741 femmes.

Voici, par ordre d'importance, le nombre et la nationalité de ces immigrants:

Espagne	22,178	Amérique du Sud	143
Angleterre	2,044	Mexique	132
Amérique du Nord	1,907	Scandinavie	100
Porto Rico	707	Grèce	81
Autres Indes Occidentales	953	Autriche	36
Syrie	294	Portugal	26
France	281	Indes Orientales	26
Turquie	264	Hollande	25
Italie	215	Pays divers	86
Arabie	182		

En comparant le total général de l'année 1906–7 avec celui de l'année précédente, on constate une diminution de 23,080 sur l'année 1906–7, le nombre d'immigrants en 1905–6 ayant été de 52,652.

RECENSEMENT EN 1907.

D'après le recensement fait en 1907 et transmis en décembre par le Directeur Général du Recensement au Gouverneur Provisoire de Cuba, la population de l'île s'élève à 2,028,282 habitants, répartie de la manière suivante dans les différentes provinces. On donne aussi les chiffres du recensement fait en 1899, afin de les comparer avec ceux de 1907.

Provinces.	1899.	1907.
Pinar del Rio	173,082	240,781
Habana	424,811	518,524
Matanzas	202,462	239,866
Santa Clara	356,537	457,897
Camaguey	88,237	117,432
Oriente	327,716	453,782
Total	1,572,845	2,028,282

ÉQUATEUR.

MODIFICATIONS DOUANIÈRES.

["Registro Oficial" du 17 janvier 1907.]

ARTICLE 1er. Sont exempts de tout impôt fiscal et municipal les produits suivants de première nécessité: Maïs, orge, pommes de terre, haricots, vesces, lentilles, froment et sucre.

Le droit applicable à l'importation des pâtes alimentaires sera de 1 centavo par kilogramme, aussi bien en vertu du présent décret qu'aux termes du tarif des douanes.

Sont également exempts de tout impôt fiscal et municipal, le riz et les farines importés du Pérou dans la Province de Loja par la douane de terre du Macara.

* * * * * * *

ART. 7. Il sera perçu un impôt de 2 centavos par bouteille de bière fabriquée dans le Littoral et un droit de 3 centavos par kilogramme brut, et en plus la surtaxe de 100 pour cent, comme droit unique, à l'importation de la bière étrangère; est abrogé en conséquence l'impôt de consommation applicable à cette boisson.

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ART. 12. La présente loi entrera en vigueur dans toute la République six jours après sa promulgation dans la capitale.

EXPOSITION NATIONALE DE QUITO.

Le 31 octobre M. ALFARO, Président de la République de l'Équateur, a promulgué un décret pour organiser sur une grande échelle, à Quito, une exposition nationale dont l'inauguration aura lieu le 10 août 1909, jour du centenaire du premier mouvement révolutionnaire de l'Amérique du Sud. Cette révolution s'appelle en espagnol "El grito de independencia," ce qui veut dire "Appel du peuple du 10 août 1809 pour l'indépendance." L'exposition est en commémoration de cet événement. Dans ce décret il est dit que l'on construira sur des terrains publics, près de la capitale, un grand bâtiment ou pavillon national, ainsi qu'un certain nombre de constructions moins importantes pour l'exposition. Le conseil municipal de la ville de Quito fera faire un magnifique esplanade conduisant à l'exposition. Les travaux préliminaires d'organisation et d'installation seront sous la direction d'un comité central ayant son siège à Quito. Ce comité sera composé de trente membres choisis à cet effet par le gouvernement et à son tour ce comité choisira parmi ses membres un conseil d'administration. De plus, chacune des provinces de la République, par l'entremise du gouvernement, constituera un comité local qui relèvera du comité central.

Tout en rappelant les faits historiques dont nous venons de parler, l'exposition montrera les produits du commerce, de l'industrie, des arts de l'Equateur, ainsi que sa situation financière. Il y aura aussi une section spéciale pour montrer le système scolaire des écoles du pays.

La section consacrée aux forêts et produits forestiers sera sans doute la plus importante de l'exposition. On y verra les bois indigènes, surtout les nombreuses espèces d'arbres à caoutchouc; la méthode d'extraction du caoutchouc et la manière de le préparer pour le marché. On fera voir comment on cultive les arbres à caoutchouc, cette culture étant l'objet d'une attention toute spéciale dans le pays. On exposera des bois de teintures, des écorces, des arbres et d'autres plantes ayant des propriétés agricoles, ainsi que les arbres qui fournissent le bois de construction.

Dans certaines parties de l'exposition, on fera voir les différentes cultures du pays, telles que la culture des grains, des plantes textiles, et des fruits. On verra aussi la fabrication du sucre, des spiritueux et du vin.

On apportera tous les soins pour mettre sous les yeux des visiteurs les différentes méthodes employées dans l'industrie de la soie, afin d'encourager la culture du ver à soie sur une plus grande échelle dans l'Équateur. Dans ce but on fera venir de Chine, du Japon, de l'Inde, de Madagascar, de France, d'Italie, d'Espagne, de Hongrie et des États-Unis des échantillons pour les exposer.

L'élevage des bestiaux, qui est une des industries les plus importantes de l'Équateur et de beaucoup d'autres Républiques sud-américaines, sera l'objet d'une attention toute spéciale. On s'occupera aussi d'une manière toute particulière des progrès que l'on a faits dans la reproduction des bestiaux de pure race et de l'amélioration des animaux indigènes.

Il y aura une section pour les pêcheries, une autre pour les mines et une autre pour les chemins de fer.

Le Gouvernement de l'Équateur offre un prix de 10,000 *sucres* pour la meilleure composition littéraire sur des sujets patriotiques et historiques.

Bien que l'exposition soit nationale, on invite cordialement les pays étrangers à y participer, et on fera des arrangements pour leur donner l'espace nécessaire, ainsi que pour la manipulation et le remisage des produits étrangers.

ÉTATS-UNIS.

COMMERCE AVEC L'AMÉRIQUE LATINE.

IMPORTATIONS ET EXPORTATIONS.

On trouvera à la page 101 le dernier rapport du commerce entre les Etats-Unis et l'Amérique Latine, extrait de la compilation faite par le Bureau des Statistiques du Ministère du Commerce et du Travail. Le rapport a trait au mois de novembre 1907, et donne un tableau comparatif de ce mois avec le mois correspondant de l'année 1906. Il donne aussi un tableau des onze mois finissant au mois de novembre 1907, en les comparant avec la période correspondante de l'année précédente. On sait que les chiffres des différents bureaux de douane montrant les importations et les exportations pour un mois quelconque ne sont reçus au Ministère des Finances que le 20 du mois suivant, et qu'il faut un certain temps pour les compiler et les faire imprimer, de sorte que les résultats pour le mois de novembre ne peuvent être publiés avant le mois de janvier.

GUATÉMALA.

CONDITIONS ÉCONOMIQUES.

Dans une brochure très intéressante, publiée par Señor Víctor Aguilar Peláez, consul du Guatémala à Liverpool et à Manchester, on trouve les renseignements suivants au sujet des ressources et des conditions économiques actuelles qui existent dans le pays.

Les importations, dont la valeur s'est élevée à $7,220,759 or pour l'année 1906, se composent de presque toutes espèces d'articles manufacturés et de machineries; lainages, cotonnades, soieries, lingerie, chapellerie, comestibles, vins et liqueurs, conserves, porcelaines, faïence, verrerie, ferronnerie, mercerie, pianos, voitures, billards, instruments de musique, tableaux, vernis, médicaments parfumerie, bijouterie, pierres précieuses, articles de fantaisie, etc. Voici, par ordre d'importance, les pays d'où proviennent les articles nommés ci-dessus: États-Unis, Allemagne, Angleterre, France, Italie, Espagne, Belgique, Suisse, Autriche, Hollande, Japon, Chine, Mexique, Pérou, Chili et autres républiques de l'Amérique Centrale.

Les exportations, dont la valeur s'est élevée à $7,136.27 or pour l'année 1906, se composent principalement des articles suivants: Café, sucre, bananes, bois, cuirs, caoutchouc, plantes médicinales, fruits, etc. Le principal article d'exportation est le café, dont on a expédié environ 50,000 tonnes, et il est considéré comme article de première qualité sur les marchés du monde entier. Voici les principaux pays auxquels le Guatémala exporte les articles mentionnés ci-dessus: États-Unis, Allemagne, Angleterre, France, Italie, Autriche-Hongrie, Espagne, Belgique et Chili.

Le commerce extérieur se développe, et on compte que l'inauguration du Chemin de Fer Interocéanique—de San José sur le Pacifique à Puerto Barrios sur l'Atlantique, points qui sont à 269 milles de distance l'un de l'autre—facilitera grandement le transport des produits indigènes aux ports d'embarquement.

Voici les noms des chemins de fer qui sont actuellement en exploitation: Le Central, l'Ouest, l'Ocos, le Verapaz et le Guatémala, et l'inauguration de celui du Nord a dû avoir lieu au mois de décembre 1907.

Les produits du Guatémala sont très abondants et très variés. Dans le règne végétal on trouve toutes sortes de plantes, de fleurs et de fruits appartenant aux zones torrides et tempérées. Il y a dans le pays de riches mines d'or, d'argent, de cuivre, de fer, de plomb, de zinc, d'antimoine, de charbon, de marbre, de soufre, de mica, etc.

Toutefois, c'est l'agriculture qui constitue la principale richesse et c'est à son exploitation que l'on consacre la plus grande partie des placements de capitaux. Par suite de la richesse extraordinaire du

sol on ne se sert pas d'engrais, et l'irrigation n'est pas nécessaire à cause de la grande humidité qui règne même pendant la saison des sécheresses.

Dans quelques endroits sur la côte on peut obtenir deux ou trois récoltes par an. On trouve de grandes plantations de café, de canne à sucre, de cacao, de bananes, de céréales, etc., et dans les Départements du nord, un grand nombre de compagnies indigènes et étrangères se livrent à l'exploitation des forêts qui renferment des quantités de bois précieux, parmi lesquels on remarque l'acajou et le cèdre. On poursuit avec succès le plantage du caoutchouc.

Divers articles manufacturés ont atteint un degré de perfection très sensible. Certains tissus de laine et de coton, des meubles et des chaussures de fabrique indigène sont d'aussi bonne qualité que les articles importés. Voici d'autres produits de manufacture indigène: Chapeaux, selles, articles en fibre, textiles de roseaux, articles de poterie, sculpture, instruments de musique, savons, bougies, cigares, cigarettes, fromage, beurre, bière, eaux minérales, glace, eau-de-vie, etc. Les ouvriers indigènes montrent beaucoup de dispositions à apprendre de nouveux métiers et les matières premières sont variées et excellentes.

La superficie du pays est de 125,000 kilomètres carrés et la population s'élève à 2,000,000 d'habitants, la densité étant de 16 par kilomètre carré.

L'aspect physique du Guatémala est montagneux, mais bien arrosé. Le climat varie d'après l'altitude au-dessus du niveau de la mer; sur les côtes il fait très chaud; sur les plateaux du centre le climat est tempéré et agréable, et sur les hauteurs il fait froid. Pendant la saison des pluies il pleut tous les jours et pendant la saison sèche il pleut de temps en temps.

Les parties du pays les plus peuplées sont le sud et l'ouest. La capitale du pays, Guatémala, a une population de 100,000 habitants. Elle est reliée par voie ferrée à San José sur le Pacifique et à Puerto Barrios sur l'Atlantique. De Guatémala à San José, il y a une distance de 74.5 milles que l'on peut faire en cinq heures, et de Guatémala à Puerto Barrios il y a une distance de 194.5 milles que l'on peut faire en douze heures.

If faut quatre jours pour faire le voyage du Guatémala aux États-Unis en partant des ports de l'Atlantique et quinze jours pour aller en Europe. La côte du Pacifique s'étend sur une longeur de 250 kilomètres et celle de l'Atlantique sur une longeur de 161 kilomètres. Les ports du Pacifique sont San José, Champérico et Ocos, et ceux de l'Atlantique sont Puerto Barrios, Santo Tomás et Livingston. Panzós sur le rio Polochic et Gualán sur le rio Motagua sont des ports fluviaux; Izabel, sur le lac du même nom, est aussi un endroit important.

MEXIQUE.

RECETTES POSTALES, 1906-7.

D'après des statistiques publiées dernièrement par l'Administration des Postes du Mexique, les recettes provenant du service des ports pendant l'année fiscale finissant le 30 juin 1907, se sont élevées à 4,031,124.86 piastres ($2,015,562.43), contre 3,653,315.87 piastres ($1,826,657.93) en 1905–6, soit une augmentation de 377,808.99 piastres, ($138,904.49) ou 10.34 pour cent.

RECETTES POSTALES PENDANT LE PREMIER TRIMESTRE DE L'ANNÉE 1907-8.

Les recettes postales du Mexique pendant le premier trimestre de l'année fiscale 1907–8 (juillet–septembre 1907) se sont élevées à 1,043,-065.88 piastres ($521,532.94), contre 939,837.20 piastres ($469,918.60), soit une augmentation de 103,228.68 piastres ($51,614.34), ou 10.98 pour cent.

AUGMENTATION DES DROITS D'IMPORTATION SUR LE SUCRE.

Le 21 décembre 1907, le Président de la République du Mexique a promulgué une loi déjà passée au Congrès National modifiant le paragraphe 125 du tarif douanier en vigueur afin d'augmenter les droits d'importation de 2 piastres 50 ($1.25) par 100 kilogrammes, poids brut, sur le sucre ordinaire, le sucre candi et le sucre raffiné de toutes sortes. Cette loi entrera en vigueur le 15 février 1908 à minuit.

COMMERCE DE PROGRESO, YUCATAN, PENDANT LE PREMIER TRIMESTRE DE L'ANNÉE 1907-8.

Pendant les trois premiers mois de l'année fiscale 1907–8, on a exporté du port de Progreso, Yucatan, 25,937,342 kilogrammes de henequen, d'une valeur de 6,323,765 piastres ($3,161,882.50). Pendant le même trimestre la valeur des marchandises indigènes entrées par ce port s'est élevée à 3,727,500 piastres ($1,863,750) et les importations de marchandises se sont élevées à 2,320,773 piastres ($1,160,386.50).

MINES DE CUIVRE.

D'après des statistiques publiées dernièrement par le Département de *Fomento* du Mexique, il y a plus de 1,000 mines en exploitation; ce sont les mines de cuivre qui dominent. Sur ce nombre, il y en a 302 dans l'Etat de Jalisco, 234 dans celui de Sonora, 95 dans celui de Michoacan, 65 dans celui de la Basse-Californie, 53 dans celui de Chihuahua et 51 dans celui de Durango.

Les mines de Jalisco bien que plus nombreuses sont comparativement petites, et la production en est de peu d'importance; tandis que l'Etat de Sonora, dans lequel se trouvent les mines de Cananea,

tient le premier rang pour le tonnage; vient ensuite l'Etat de la Basse-Californie. Dans cette région les fonderies de la compagnie Boleo, qui envoie toute sa production en Europe, travaillent par mois environ 25,000 tonnes de minerai, produisant environ 2,000 tonnes de cuivre.

MODIFICATIONS DOUANIÈRES.

["Diario Oficial" du 19 novembre 1906.]

Les effets de la présente loi pourront être suspendus en tout temps par décret du Pouvoir Exécutif.

ARTICLE 1er. II. Les droits d'exportation sur les bois indigènes de teinture, de construction et d'ébénisterie, ainsi que sur le transit des bois étrangers des mêmes espèces, seront perçus conformément aux lois du 12 décembre 1893 et du 3 décembre 1904, ainsi qu'aux autres dispositions en vigueur. Cependant, les taux des droits applicables aux bois de teinture en vertu de l'article 8 de la première des lois susmentionnées seront modifiés comme suit:

Bois de teinture ou de campêche	tonne de 1,000 kilos	$0.50
Bois de mûrier	id	.25

Dans le cas où il serait matériellement impossible de constater le poids du bois, le rapport entre la tonne de jauge des navires et le poids du bois de teinture ou de campêche embarqué sera celui qui, conformément aux dispositions administratives en vigueur, sert de base pour le calcul en douane.

III. Droits d'exportation sur les produits naturels suivants:

A. Racine de *zacaton*	100 kilos bruts	$0.60
B. Gomme sapote (*chicle*)	kilo net	.02
C. *Guayule* en herbe, à l'état naturel ou broyé	tonne de 1,000 kilos bruts	15.00

IV. Droits d'exportation sur les produits agricoles suivants:

A. Agave brute	100 kilos nets	$0.50
B. Istle brut	id	.50
C. Cuirs et peaux non tannés:		
Peaux de cerf et de chevreau	100 kilos bruts	2.25
Peaux de bétail ou autres	id	.75

PANAMA.

MODIFICATIONS DOUANIÈRES.

["Gaceta Oficial" du 24 octobre 1906.]

ARTICLE 1er. Un impôt de 2½ *balboas* par 50 kilogrammes sera perçu à l'entrée dans la République de tout produit sucré ou substance importés sous le nom de sucre moscouade, de vésou ou sous toute autre dénomination, et susceptible d'être employés à la distillation de l'eau-de-vie.

ART. 2. Le Pouvoir Exécutif est autorisé à diminuer, en cas de nécessité, mais de 50 centimes de *balboa* seulement, le droit applicable en vertu de la présente loi à l'importation des produits susmentionnés.

["Gaceta Oficial" du 24 octobre 1906.]

Est absolument prohibée l'exportation de toute espèce de monnaie divisionnaire d'argent nationale. Quiconque aura contrevenu à la présente disposition encourra les pénalités établies par les lois en vigueur sur la matière.

Loi No. 88 de 1904, relative au régime fiscal[a] et abrogeant certaines dispositions de la loi No. 72 de la même année.

["Gaceta Oficial" du 27 janvier 1907.]

ARTICLE 1er. Les marchandises ci-après dénommées, dont l'importation dans la République est frappée d'impôts spéciaux, acquitteront:

1°. Opium, 8 *balboas* par kilogramme.

Cet impôt pourra faire l'objet d'une adjudication pour des périodes ne dépassant pas quatre années:

2°. Tabac brut ou pressé en tablettes pour être fabriqué, ainsi que tabac à fumer ou à mâcher, 50 centimes de *balboa* par kilogramme.

3°. Tabac fabriqué en cigares, tabac coupé ou haché, 1 *balboa* et 50 centimes de *balboa* par kilogramme.

4°. Cigarettes, 1 *balboa* par kilogramme.

Le Pouvoir Exécutif est autorisé, s'il le juge convenable, à remplacer le mode actuel de perception des impôts sur le tabac fabriqué en cigares, le tabac coupé ou haché et les cigarettes au moyen de bandes ou timbres de la valeur correspondante à appliquer sur les caisses, paquets ou boîtes.

L'impôt à percevoir sur le tabac, les cigares et les cigarettes s'applique à la marchandise telle qu'elle est présentée pour la vente et non pas à son emballage extérieur.

ART. 2. La bijouterie de toute sorte; les perles et les pierres précieuses; les articles manufacturés en or, argent, platine et cristal; les objets d'ornament en bronze et les articles argentés, tels que vaisselle, etc.; les soieries de toute espèce; les porcelaines fines, telles que la porcelaine de Sèvres, de Dresde, de la Chine, du Japon, etc.; la par-

[a] La loi No. 88 du 5 juillet 1904, reproduite en tête du fascicule 170, a été modifiée par le décret No. 73 du 6 décembre de la même année ("Gaceta Oficial" du 10 décembre 1904). En vertu de l'article 1er dudit décret, et à partir du 10 décembre, l'impôt commercial de 15 pour cent, dont il est question au deuxième alinéa de l'article 3 de la loi No. 88 susmentionnée, est remplacé par un impôt de 10 pour cent, et le droit applicable à l'exportation de la monnaie d'or, aux termes de l'article 62 de ladite loi, est abrogé.

Conformément à l'article 2 du même décret, il ne sera perçu que 60 pour cent des droits consulaires établis dans les tarifs en vigueur pour l'expédition des navires et la délivrance des documents relatifs aux importations dans les ports de la République.

fumerie et les savons de toilette acquitteront 15 pour cent de leur valeur d'après facture.

Les dispositions du présent article ne seront applicables qu'après que le Pouvoir Exécutif aura procédé aux négociations nécessaires à la sauvegarde des intérêts fiscaux de la République.

ART. 3. Le Pouvoir Exécutif est autorisé à frapper l'importation des sucres blancs raffinés et centrifuges d'un droit de 2 centimes de *balboa* par kilogramme, à partir du jour où des usines produisant un total annuel d'au moins 2,500,000 kilogrammes seront mises en activité.

* * * * * * *

ART. 5. L'impôt visé à l'alinéa 1er de l'article 3, du titre I de la loi No. 88 de 1904, s'applique aussi bien au bétail sur pied qu'aux animaux abattus.

Il est entendu que quatre quarts représentent une tête de bétail, et la fraction de l'impôt sera applicable à chaque quart. Si l'animal est importé dépecé en morceaux de moins d'un quart, 400 livres équivaudront à un animal entier, et la taxe sera perçue in proportion.

ART. 6. Le droit sur le café, rangé sous l'alinéa 4 de l'article 3 du titre I de la loi susindiquée, s'appliquera également au café moulu.

ART. 7. Est exempte de droits l'importation des livres imprimés de toute sorte.

ART. 8. Dans le cas où cela serait jugé avantageux pour le Trésor, la distillation des liqueurs pourra faire l'objet d'un monopole.

À l'occasion de cette adjudication, on se conformera aux règles établies par le paragraphe 1er de l'article 2 de la loi No. 19 de 1904.

ART. 9. L'alcool méthylique ne pourra pas être employé dans la fabrication des boissons spiritueuses. Le Pouvoir Exécutif adoptera les mesures nécessaires pour qu'à son importation, l'alcool méthylique soit rendu impropre à cet usage.

ART. 10. Tout négociant qui, à trois reprises différentes, aura été déclaré responsable d'importation clandestine de marchandises ou de déclarations fausses préjudiciables au Trésor, sera condamné aux pénalités pécuniaires établies par la loi 88 de 1904, et il sera, en outre, interdit au délinquant d'exercer le commerce pendant une période de six mois.

ART. 11. Dans les cas visés par l'article 10 de l'ordonnance No. 30 de 1904, le contrevenant pourra être condamné à faire abandon à l'Etat, au prix de revient, des marchandises déclarées au-dessous de leur valeur réelle.

* * * * * * *

ART. 13. Sont abrogés l'article 1er de la loi No. 72 de 1904, ainsi que les autres dispositions de ladite loi qui en dérivent.

ART. 14. Sont ainsi complétées et modifiées les dispositions législatives contraires à la présente loi.

PÉROU.

SERVICE MARITIME ENTRE NEW-YORK ET CALLAO.

Avec l'inauguration du nouveau service maritime entre New-York et Callao par la Compagnie Nationale de Vapeurs et de Docks Flottants (Compañía Nacional de Vapores y Diques del Callao), *via* Panama, les relations commerciales des deux pays auront fait un grand pas. On espère que cette compagnie sera en mesure d'ouvrir un service régulier au commencement de l'année 1908; elle possède un capital de $15,000,000 et doit recevoir un subside de $1,500,000 du Gouvernement péruvien. On construit actuellement en Angleterre pour cette ligne des vapeurs à grande vitesse, et on compte faire le trajet de Panama à Callao en cinq jours au lieu de douze jours comme cela se fait en ce moment.

Callao est le plus grand port du Pacifique entre San-Francisco et Valparaiso, et son commerce recevra une nouvelle impulsion par suite de la facilité offerte par cette nouvelle ligne dans l'expédition des marchandises entre ce port et les ports d'Europe et des Etats-Unis.

SALVADOR.

MODIFICATIONS DOUANIÈRES.

["Diario Oficial" du 9 novembre 1906.]

ART. VI. Les marchandises et articles de commerce de toute sorte de production du sol ou de l'industrie des deux États contractants ou de tout autre pays, dont l'importation est autorisée par les lois, pourront également être importés par navires italiens ou salvadoriens sans acquitter d'autres droits ou des droits plus élevés que ceux prélevés sur les navires de la nation jouissant du traitement le plus favorisé.

Ce régime réciproque d'égalité sera indistinctement appliqué aux marchandises et articles arrivant directement des ports des États contractants ou de toute autre localité, et sur les navires d'une autre nationalité, pourvu qu'en pareil cas des documents établissant la provenance soient présentés.

Le même régime de réciprocité sera observé à l'exportation et dans le transit, sans égard à la provenance ou à la destination, de même pour ce qui concerne les franchises, les remises et les remboursements des droits que la législation des deux pays aurait établi ou établirait.

En outre, il ne sera perçu en Italie, à l'importation ou à l'exportation des articles provenant du sol ou de l'industrie du Salvador, et respectivement dans le Salvador, à l'importation ou à l'exportation

des articles provenant du sol ou de l'industrie de l'Italie, des droits plus élevés que ceux applicables aux même articles provenant du sol ou de l'industrie des pays les plus favorisés.

Il est également entendu que les droits du tarif douanier du Salvador, *ad valorem* ou spécifiques, et, respectivement, les droits du tarif douanier italien, ne pourront en aucun cas et sous aucun prétexte, pour ce qui concerne les marchandises et produits italiens et, respectivement, pour les marchandises et produits du Salvador, être plus élevés que ceux qui frappent ou frapperaient les marchandises et produits similaires de la nation la plus favorisée, et seront considérés comme tels les droits additionnels de l'État ou des municipalités, ou de toute autre sorte.

Les dispositions du présent article ne s'appliquent pas au régime de faveur que le Salvador a réservé ou réserverait à d'autres États du Centre-Amérique.

["Diario Oficial" du 22 décembre 1906.]

Quelques doutes s'étant élevées sur l'interprétation que comporte l'ordonnance du 10 octobre dernier, exemptant de tous droits et impôts l'importation des machines industrielles, y compris leurs pièces de rechange et accessoires, doutes résultant de ce qu'aucune dérogation ni modification n'a été apportée à l'article 592 du tarif aux termes duquel les accessoires de machines ou d'appareils quelconques ne bénéficient de la franchise que jusqu'à concurrence de la quantité jugée nécessaire pour la mise en marche de ces machines et appareils, et que s'ils sont introduits dans la suite ou importés en trop, ils doivent suivre le régime qui leur est assigné dans le tarif, le Pouvoir Exécutif, en vue de préciser le sens de la disposition susmentionnée, a édicté la présente ordonnance complémentaire:

1°. L'article 592 du tarif est maintenu en vigueur et n'est applicable qu'aux accessoires de machines;

2°. Les pièces de rechange de machines qui sont des parties intégrantes de machines, telles que grilles pour chaudières, coussinets, poulies, roues dentées, arbres de transmission, manomètres, injecteurs, chaudières, ainsi que toutes autres pièces de même espèce, seront toujours exemptes, qu'elles soient introduites en même temps que la machine principale ou dans la suite, séparément;

3°. Les accessoires, c'est-à-dire les matériaux et objets qui ne font pas partie intégrante des machines, tels que bourrages en caoutchouc, en amiante et en cuir, courroies de toute espèce, burettes à huile, huile pour machines, ordinaire ou impure, étoupe pour nettoyer, terre et briques réfractaires, tuyaux en verre pour niveaux de chaudières, soupapes et autres objets similaires, sont soumis aux dispositions de l'article 592 du tarif pour ce qui concerne les droits, les délais et les quantités stipulés pour leur importation;

4°. Tous les outils pour artisans, les tuyaux en général et les manches de toute espèce ne pourront en aucun cas être considérés comme pièces de rechange ou accessoires de machines.

La présente ordonnance entrera en vigueur le jour de sa publication.

["Diario Oficial" du 26 mars 1907.]

ARTICLE UNIQUE. A partir du 1er avril prochain les impôts applicables à l'importation des marchandises, c'est-à-dire les 8 *pesos* argent par 100 kilogrammes, dont il est question à l'article 573 du tarif en vigueur, sont réduits à 3.60 *pesos* en or américain et perçus en monnaie courante ou en traites négociables à vue sur les Etats-Unis.

["Diario Oficial" du 27 mars 1907.]

ARTICLE UNIQUE. A partir du 1er avril prochain 22 pour cent de la partie des droits d'importation actuellement perçus en argent seront réduits à 10 pour cent en or américain et prélevés en monnaie courante ou en traites négociables à vue sur les Etats-Unis.

["Diario Oficial" du 17 juin 1907.]

En vertu de la présente ordonnance est prohibée l'exportation des graines de première nécessité.

["Diario Oficial" du 10 mai 1907.]

Les marchandises avariées et dont les commerçants font abandon au moment de la vérification seront mises à la disposition des compagnies d'assurance, pourvu qu'il soit établi qu'elles ont été assurées. Les compagnies pourront les dédouaner moyennant paiement intégral des droits et impôts pendant les huit mois de magasinage que la loi autorise et après lesquels les marchandises appartiendront au Trésor.

["Diario Oficial" du 17 mai 1907.]

ARTICLE PREMIER. Est établie une surtaxe de 1½ *centavos* par quintal sur les marchandises exportées par les ports de la République, sauf l'or et l'argent non monnayés dont l'importation est spécialement soumise à un droit de 3 pour cent sur la valeur intrinsèque.

["Diario Oficial" du 8 juin 1907.]

La couleur en poudre, ordinaire ou fine, sera indistinctement et en règle générale soumise au droit de 8 *centavos*. Sont ainsi modifiées les taxes de 5 et 10 *centavos* que le tarif des douanes a établies pour la couleur dont il s'agit.

La présente ordonnance entrera en vigueur le jour de sa publication.

ADDITIONS TO THE
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JULY to DECEMBER
1907

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ESTIMATE JANUARY 1, 1908.

Countries.	Standard.	Unit.	Value in U. S. gold or silver.	Coins.
Argentine Republic.	Gold	Peso	$0.965	Gold—Argentine ($4.824) and ½ Argentine. Silver—Peso and divisions.
Bolivia	Silver	Boliviano	.429	Silver—Boliviano and divisions.
Brazil	Gold	Milreis	.546	Gold—5, 10, and 20 milreis. Silver—½, 1, and 2 milreis.
Central American States—				
Costa Rica	Gold	Colon	.465	Gold—2, 5, 10, and 20 colons ($9.307). Silver—5, 10, 25, and 50 centimos.
Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Salvador	Silver	Peso	.429	Silver—Peso and divisions.
Chile	Gold	Peso	.365	Gold—Escudo ($1.825), doubloon ($3.650), and condor ($7.300). Silver—Peso and divisions.
Colombia	Gold	Dollar	1.000	Gold—Condor ($9.647) and double condor. Silver—Peso.
Ecuador	Gold	Sucre	.487	Gold—10 sucres ($4.8665). Silver—Sucre and divisions.
Haiti	Gold	Gourde	.965	Gold—1, 2, 5, and 10 gourdes. Silver—Gourde and divisions.
Mexico	Gold	Peso [a]	.498	Gold—5 and 10 pesos. Silver—Dollar [b] (or peso) and divisions.
Panama	Gold	Balboa	1.000	Gold—1, 2½, 5, 10, and 20 balboas. Silver—Peso and divisions.
Peru	Gold	Libra	4.86½	Gold—½ and 1 libra. Silver—Sol and divisions.
Uruguay	Gold	Peso	1.034	Gold—Peso. Silver—Peso and divisions.
Venezuela	Gold	Bolivar	.193	Gold—5, 10, 20, 50, and 100 bolivars. Silver—5 bolivars.

[a] 75 centigrams fine gold.

[b] Value in Mexico, 0.498.

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International Union of American Republics

Monthly Bulletin

OF THE

International Bureau

OF THE

American Republics

VOL. 26, NO. 2

FEBRUARY, 1908

WHOLE NO. 173

WASHINGTON, D. C., U. S. A.

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

1908

JOHN BARRETT,
Director of the International Bureau of the American Republics.

FRANCISCO J. YÁNES,
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A PARTIAL VIEW OF THE BAY OF VALPARAISO, CHILE.

MONTHLY BULLETIN

OF THE

INTERNATIONAL BUREAU OF THE AMERICAN REPUBLICS,

International Union of American Republics.

VOL. XXVI. FEBRUARY, 1908. No. 2.

The Fourth Pan-American Conference will be held in Buenos Aires, the capital of the Argentine Republic, in 1910. This decision was reached at the regular meeting of the Governing Board of the International Bureau, held on February 5, 1908. The vote in favor of Buenos Aires was unanimous, and felicitous remarks were made by the diplomatic representatives present in recording the attitude of their respective Governments. The meeting was largely attended and much interest was shown in the first steps taken toward the next Conference of American Republics. It is the intention of the Governing Board that there shall be careful preparation for this gathering, with the purpose of making it a Conference that will worthily continue the work done by the three preceding ones, held respectively in Washington, Mexico, and Rio de Janeiro. It is fitting that the Conference should assemble in Buenos Aires during the year 1910, for the Argentine Republic is preparing then to celebrate the one hundredth anniversary of its independence upon an elaborate scale. This is an event that interests all America, and will provide a becoming background for the sessions of the Conference. A great exposition is to be held in commemoration of the national anniversary, which will surely attract large numbers of people from both the United States and Europe. As Buenos Aires now has a population of 1,140,000, and is growing as rapidly as any city in the United States, with the possible exception of New York and Chicago, it ranks among the chief capitals of the world, and is a most suitable point, both for the Conference and a great international exposition. The definite selection of place and date gives abundant time not only for the Argentine Government to make preparations, but for the Governing Board of the Bureau to outline the necessary programme.

CONVENTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS OF THE THIRD PAN-AMERICAN CONFERENCE.

A most important report was submitted to the Governing Board at its last meeting, in regard to the conventions and resolutions signed at the Third Pan-American Conference held in Rio de Janeiro. The committee consisted of Mr. J. N. LÉGER, Minister of Haiti, Señor Don EPIFANIO PORTELA, Minister of the Argentine Republic, and Señor Don FELIPE PARDO, Minister of Peru; who were assisted by the Director and Secretary of the Bureau in preparing the data. The report is given in full in this issue, and shows just what is the present situation in regard to the work of the three conferences. It also shows that action must be taken by many of the Governments in the matter of approval or disapproval of the different conventions and resolutions, so that the way may be cleared for the Fourth Conference. The committee recommends strongly that the members of the Governing Board urge upon their respective Governments immediate consideration of these resolutions and conventions, so that either ratification may be forthcoming, or suggestions may be made as to their amendment, which can be submitted to the next Conference. Among the other important recommendations of the committee is that giving the Director authority to establish a section of statistics and commercial information as a subdivision of the work of the International Bureau. The committee also advises that the different countries shall take favorable action, without delay, toward increasing their quotas 50 per cent for the support of the Bureau, and that those countries which are delinquent in paying their dues, not only for the maintenance of the Bureau, but for the new building, be asked to attend to these deficiencies immediately, in order that the work of the Bureau may not be handicapped or the construction of the building delayed.

SPECIAL REPORT OF PROF. WILLIAM R. SHEPHERD.

In this issue of the Bulletin is published an interesting and exhaustive report on the commercial relations of the United States and South America, by Prof. WILLIAM R. SHEPHERD. It should be read by everybody interested in the development of Pan-American commerce and comity. It will be remembered that Professor SHEPHERD, who is one of the most prominent members of the faculty of Columbia University, New York City, made a tour of South America in 1907, visiting Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, Chile, the Argentine Republic, Uruguay, and Brazil, going down the west coast via Panama, and returning via the east coast and Rio de Janeiro. At the request of the Director of the Bureau, he made special investigations for the benefit of this institution, and has embodied his opinions in this report. Professor

SHEPHERD is a close student of affairs, and has always been interested in bringing about closer relations between North and South America. The suggestions he has to make are carefully considered and pointed. It is hoped that the example set by Professor SHEPHERD may be followed by college professors occupying similar chairs in different institutions of this country, and thus a greater interest developed throughout the United States in her sister Republics.

STUDY OF SOUTH AMERICAN HISTORY AND POLITICS.

The paper read by Dr. HIRAM BINGHAM, of Yale, on the "Possibilities of South American History and Politics as a Field for Research," before the American Political Science Association, at Madison, Wisconsin, on December 28, 1907, is so full of original and interesting matter of value to all students and persons concerned about that part of the world that it is reproduced in this issue of the BULLETIN. The Director particularly commends it to the large number of college professors and students of American institutions of learning who are now taking up the study of history and politics of our sister Republics. The Bureau is constantly receiving letters from students in the leading educational institutions of the United States asking for suggestions along the very lines covered by this paper of Doctor BINGHAM. The facts and information it contains will surprise the majority of persons who have not even realized what were the opportunities in the United States for study of this subject. With Doctor BINGHAM'S data at hand, anyone can readily begin research on general or special phases of the history and politics of South America.

THE CENTRAL AMERICAN FRATERNITY.

The Central American Peace Conference, which adjourned on December 20, 1907, after holding its sessions, covering a period of five weeks, in the International Bureau of the American Republics, took one step which is almost unprecedented and yet of peculiar sentimental value in the development of closer relations between Central America, Mexico, and the United States. There was organized the Central American Fraternity, whose chief purpose shall be the keeping alive of the spirit of mutual interest and sympathy among the Republics of North America. The Constitutional Act of this fraternity is published in this issue of the BULLETIN, and ought to be read by all who are following closely the resolutions of the Conference. It is no exaggeration to state that the organization of this fraternity marked the climax of the genuine good will and kindly feeling that characterized all the sessions of the Conference and the relations of the different delegates, and it should be a strong influence in favor of the carrying out of all the conventions signed at this notable gathering.

FIRST PAN-AMERICAN SCIENTIFIC CONGRESS.

Interest is developing so rapidly throughout the United States and the other American Republics in the First Pan-American Scientific Congress, which is to meet at Santiago, Chile, on December 1, 1908, that the proposed programme and bases are printed in this issue of the BULLETIN. It is hoped that the United States Congress will approve of the appropriation recommended by Secretary Root for the official participation of the United States. It is understood that the Government of Chile is making elaborate preparations for the event and that nearly all of the American Republics will send delegates. Aside from those who may be appointed directly by the Governments, representatives of different universities and scientific organizations will be welcomed.

ADDRESSES ON LATIN AMERICA BY THE DIRECTOR.

As evidence of the growing interest in the Latin-American countries which is being manifested throughout the United States, it can be stated that if the Director of the Bureau were to accept one-third of the invitations that come to him from chambers of commerce, educational institutions, and other organizations to address them on the general and commercial relations of the United States and Latin America, it would have been necessary for him to speak nearly every day from the 1st of January until the 1st of June. These occasions are not by any means confined to any one section of the country; they take place in central and far West, as well as in New England and the South. The demands made upon his time, however, by the executive work of the Bureau permit him to accept only a small portion of these invitations. As evidence of the Director's efforts to meet in so far as possible the desire for information furnished in this form, a list is given of some of the engagements he has filled since January 1: University Club, Washington, D. C., January 4; Oregon Society, Washington, D. C., January 11; dinner celebrating inauguration of new steamship service to South America, New York City, January 14; Washington Institute of Banking, January 16; Men's Club, Central Presbyterian Church, Washington, D. C., January 20; Cooper Union, New York City, January 27; annual banquet of Merchants' and Manufacturers' Association of Baltimore, January 30; National Association of Manufacturers, New York City, January 31; California Society, Washington, D. C., February 2; Lincoln banquet, Grand Rapids, Michigan, February 12; Chamber of Commerce, Pontiac, Michigan, February 13; Commercial Club, Lincoln, Nebraska, February 17; Mackenzie School, Dobbs Ferry, New York, Washington's Birthday, celebration,

morning of February 22; National Jewellers' Association, Philadelphia, evening of February 22, and American Geographical Society, New York City, February 25.

SOUTH AMERICAN TRAVEL ROUTES AND CONDITIONS.

The International Bureau is receiving so many inquiries, both from the United States and Europe, in regard to conditions and routes of travel in South America that it has requested Mr. LEE MCCLUNG, Treasurer of Yale University, who has recently made a trip around South America, and Mrs. MARIE ROBINSON WRIGHT, the noted authoress, who has visited all sections of the Southern Continent, to prepare brief statements descriptive of travel routes and conditions, which may be of practical value to people intending to visit that part of the world. The correspondence of the Bureau would indicate that during the next year there will be a great increase in the number of travelers going south. A large number of tourists, moreover, who have been in the habit of going to Europe and Asia, are making up their mind, in view of the developing interest in Latin America, to change their customary routes and see what is going on in South and Central America. In this connection, it is well to note the great improvement in the steamship service on the east coast, provided by the Lamport & Holt Company, in the form of three large vessels of approximately 10,000 tons each, having superior passenger accommodations, and which have been placed permanently on the route between New York City, Rio de Janeiro, and Buenos Aires. A photograph of one of these ships and also one or two interior views are given in this issue of the BULLETIN as evidence to those persons who want to go to South America that they can make the trip in comfort.

RAILWAYS OF THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

Governmental legislation for the uniformity of privileges to be accorded the various railroads operating in the Argentine Republic has given a decided impetus to the development of new enterprises. The total mileage of the lines in operation now aggregates nearly 14,000 miles, of which over 900 miles were constructed during the past year, and represent an invested capital of $671,688,874. A consolidation of the interests of three important roads is under consideration, and the terms of the contract whereby this consolidation is to be effected provide for the expenditure of large sums for extensions and improvements.

The postal and telegraph services, so closely allied with railway affairs, also show a healthy progress during 1907, when the revenues received therefrom increased to the extent of $746,961 over the preceding year.

In all branches of internal revenue a correspondingly satisfactory report is made.

BOLIVIAN TIN IN THE WORLD'S MARKET.

Statistics covering the movement of tin during 1907 in the markets of Europe and America place the Bolivian product second among the deliveries for consumption. Although far outranked by the Straits' output, 15,300 tons are credited to Bolivia, as against 16,380 tons in 1906.

Rubber growing in the Province of Larecaja has been made the subject of a report to the Department of Colonization and Agriculture, extracts of which are reproduced in this issue of the BULLETIN as of value to dealers in this article.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES OF THE BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT.

Advices from Brazil indicate the probability of a revision of the tariff of the country during the next session of the National Congress in May, 1908, and the active operation of the same by August of the same year. In the meantime important modifications of the import duties levied on industrial materials and machinery are covered by the Budget Law issued on January 1, 1908. The 20 per cent reduction allowed on certain specified articles of United States origin by the act of June 30, 1906, is also continued.

One result of this concession is shown in the figures of trade between the two countries issued by the Bureau of Statistics of the United States for 1907, during which time Brazil took over $4,000,000 more merchandise from the United States than in the preceding twelve months.

Imperative restrictions are applied to the importation of foodstuffs and beverages on which preservatives detrimental to the public health have been used, and an active propaganda is to be initiated, under government supervision, for the introduction and popularization of native products abroad.

CHILE'S CENSUS RETURNS AND LEGISLATIVE ENACTMENTS.

An unofficial report of the results of the Chilean Census, taken at the close of 1907, places the total number of inhabitants of the Republic at 3,250,000, an increase of a little under 50,000 since 1903, the date of the last preceding census.

The passage of a bill by the Chilean Congress on January 22, 1908, providing for an appropriation for the Longitudinal Railway, to be constructed from the Peruvian border to the Straits of Magellan, a distance of 2,600 miles, is reported, while the granting of a contract to a German firm for a line from Arica to La Paz is another indication of the activity of the Government in this important branch of development.

The proposed modification of customs duties on cattle, sheep, and certain textiles, which has been under consideration by the Chilean Government (see MONTHLY BULLETIN for December, 1907), has been enacted and promulgated as a law. The suspension of cattle duties and the reduction, by 50 per cent, of duties on the other articles specified will become effective within six months.

CUBAN TRADE IN 1906–7.

In the report of Provisional Governor MAGOON concerning general conditions in the Cuban Republic from the latter part of 1906 to the end of 1907, it is shown that the economic situation is in the main satisfactory. Imports during the fiscal year 1906–7 decreased by over $7,000,000 as compared with the preceding twelve months, but exports advanced by more than $5,000,000. In the trade with the United States for the calendar year 1907 both branches of trade show noteworthy gains.

MEXICO'S COMMERCIAL PROGRESS.

The ascending scale continues to mark Mexico's position in the commercial world. For the four months of the fiscal year for which figures have been issued, July to October, 1907, an increase of over $6,000,000 is noted in both imports and exports as compared with the corresponding period of the preceding year, while customs revenues increased for the first half of 1907–8 by nearly $2,000,000 over the first six months of 1906–7. The registry of business transactions during the calendar year 1907 aggregated something over $200,000,000, more than half of which was on account of commercial enterprises, the organization of new companies, and increased capitalization of existing corporations.

Between $25,000,000 and $30,000,000 represents the value of United States merchandise shipped during 1907, over the Tehuantepec route between Atlantic and Pacific ports, the shortening of the transport route for Hawaiian sugar being of especial value to the dealers.

Trade relations with the United States show the gratifying figures of more than $67,000,000 for imports and over $57,000,000 for exports for 1907, a gain in the former of $5,420,697 and in the latter of $6,006,528 as compared with 1906.

THE NEW AGRICULTURAL LAW AND RUBBER CONCESSIONS IN NICARAGUA.

The recently enacted law of Nicaragua designed for the promotion of agriculture and stock raising throughout the Republic carries with it a provision for the establishment abroad of an active propaganda in behalf of native products. Already the banana industry has thriven to an unprecedented extent through proper exploitation, and other Nicaraguan products are capable of a similar development.

In reporting with regard to a rubber concession recently granted, United States Consul FREDERICK M. RYDER, of San Juan del Norte, states that in all probability the said concession will ultimately be taken over by the company at present holding two large grants from the Nicaraguan Government, so that the corporation will control the output of all the wild forest rubber of the Republic.

FINANCIAL STATUS OF PANAMA.

Prosperous conditions in Panama are indicated by the fact that the fiscal revenues received during 1907 were $5,436.05 in excess of the budget estimate, aggregating $2,439,301.68. The bulk of these receipts were from import duties.

The transport of United States merchandise over the Panama Railway during 1907 is valued at from $12,000,000 to $15,000,000, and imports from that country show an advance of over $4,000,000 as compared with the preceding year.

THE PARAGUAY CENTRAL RAILWAY.

The extended résumé of the report of the Paraguay Central Railway for the year ended April 30, 1907, published in this issue of the BULLETIN, shows that affairs have been satisfactorily arranged between the operating company and the Government. As this is the only line in operation throughout the Republic, its prospects and those of the country's development are closely mingled, and the termination of the controversy will impart a new impetus to business. It is reported that crops are in an excellent condition and that there are signs of increasing vitality in all branches of commerce and industry.

PERUVIAN TRADE WITH THE UNITED STATES.

During 1907, Peruvian-United States trade showed a remarkable development, according to figures issued by the Government of the latter country. The shipments of Peruvian products to the United States increased by $4,154,790 as compared with the preceding year, while imports from that country advanced $1,672,762 in the same period.

The Cerro de Pasco mine shipped 10,000 tons of copper out of the 28,000 tons of that metal reported from the whole of South America for United States markets.

Business prosperity is further indicated by the report of the Peruvian Corporation, whose operations for the year ended June 30, 1907, show a profit of over $1,000,000.

COMMERCIAL CONDITIONS IN SALVADOR.

The Republic of Salvador reports for the first six months of 1907 an export movement valued at $5,642,700, of which the leading item was coffee, worth $4,369,600. On these exports duties to the amount of $282,293 were collected, while the receipts from imports aggregated $1,440,194. A slight decrease is noted in comparison with the corresponding period of the preceding year. The United States is placed first on the list of countries of destination.

CUSTOMS RECEIPTS AND TRADE OF URUGUAY IN 1907.

It is estimated that the total customs receipts of the Republic of Uruguay for the year 1907 will indicate a satisfactory gain over the preceding year, the figures being given as approximately $13,000,000. The last month of the year gave indications of revived business activity throughout the Republic.

For the year imports from the United States advanced by $810,395, though exports thither declined to the extent of $1,076,482.

REGULATION OF TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONES IN VENEZUELA.

What is practically a Government ownership of telegraph and telephone lines throughout Venezuela was effected by a decree of December 20, 1907, it being stated in Article 1 that the establishment of such enterprises appertains exclusively to the Federal Executive.

Certain tariff modifications becoming effective in the last month of the year are published as of interest to trade.

BOOK NOTES.

MEXICO AND HER PEOPLE OF TO-DAY.

With a commendable absence of statistical data, the book of N. O. WINTER, entitled, "Mexico and Her People of To-day," presents to the mind of the reader an almost photographic view of the resources, interests, and history of the Republic. For either the traveler or the stay-at-home its purpose is adequately fulfilled, for to the former it is a running comment on the objects and interests of his tour, while to the latter its interesting descriptions and attractively presented information almost take the place of personal observation. Side by side with the life of to-day—modern, enterprising, restless—Mr. WINTER draws pictures of the civilization of the ancients, the huge architectural ruins of the Aztecs, the showy splendor of the Spanish domination and the humble surroundings of the peon. Of San Luis Potosi, he writes: "The Spanish cavalier stalked through the streets of this town in complete mail before the *Mayflower* landed on the shores of Massachusetts. The priests were chanting the solemn service of the church here long before the English landed at Jamestown. Dust had gathered on the municipal library, which now contains a hundred thousand volumes, centuries before the building of the first little red schoolhouse in the United States. Before New York had been thought of, the drama of life was being enacted here daily after Castilian models." With equal enthusiasm he describes the capital city; its modern water system supplied partially by ancient aqueducts; its churches and palaces rising on the foundations of prehistoric structures, and the Mexican Valley guarded by the twin peaks of Popocatapetl and Ixtaccihuatl. Not only in the ruins of Mitla, but throughout the Republic, the writer traces resemblances to Egyptian archeological records, as noted in pyramids, stone graving, and images. Most vivacious are his delineations of Mexican customs and characteristics—the humble good nature of the peon, the contented poverty of the general householder, and the eccentric marriage and courtship usages being all dwelt upon with interest. The story of the Republic is told in the closing chapters, in which tribute is rendered to the firm government of President DIAZ as an augury for greater achievements on the part of the Republic, and to the masterly management of Minister LIMANTOUR in the field of finance. The wide range of subjects covered and the manner of treatment render the book of great value to any one interested in Mexico and her progress.

THE WEALTH OF CENTRAL AMERICA.

With a view to initiating a propaganda in behalf of the Central American Republics among the French, DÉSIRÉ PECTOR, Counselor

of Foreign Commerce and Consul-General in France for Honduras and Nicaragua, has prepared a voluminous and instructive book treating of the wealth of Central America (*"Les richesses de l'Amérique Centrale"*). An historical sketch of the countries in reference is outlined in the preface by M. E. LEVASSEUR, Administrator of the College of France, to which is added a résumé of the prevailing economic conditions. The purpose of the author is frankly stated to be the diffusion of a better understanding among the French nation of the advantages to be derived from a more active participation in Central American trade, at present dominated by the United States so far as Costa Rica and Guatemala are concerned, and by Great Britain in respect to Salvador, Honduras and Nicaragua. So far as is possible, the information contained in the volume is brought up to the close of 1906, and the wide scope of its purpose is indicated by the following titles to its twelve chapters: Communication with the outer world; General physical configuration; Internal communication and transport; Mineral products; Vegetable productions; Animal products; Industries; International commerce; Climatology; Immigration and colonization; Finance; Practical suggestions. Accurate and exhaustive information in regard to Central America is very scarce; when, therefore, a volume appears from so authoritative a source, it should be applied, not only by the nation for whose benefit it has been prepared, but also by all persons whose interests, whether commercial, economic, or historical, are connected with Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua or Salvador.

THROUGH SOUTH AMERICA.

In the record of impressions obtained by J. DELEBECQUE in his journey through South America (*"A travers l'Amérique du Sud"*), published by Plon-Nourrit et Cie, Paris, the most notable characteristic is the complete absence of the glorifying process usually applied to books of travel. When M. DELEBECQUE feels the lack of creature comforts and conveniences almost inevitable in frontier journeys and little traveled paths, he states the facts calmly but explicitly, so that no misapprehension of conditions is possible. On the other hand, he pays due tribute to the majesty of natural forces as exemplified in the glory of the mountains and the flow of mighty rivers encountered in his trip of sixty-four days from Lima to the Atlantic, via the Amazon River. His descriptions of the rubber districts and the methods of exploitation and shipment are of great value and interest, while his notes on the great watershed of the Amazon are characterized by a wealth of observation rare in other than purely scientific works. The account of the descent of the Pichis and Pachitea rivers to the headwaters of the Amazon is marked by a vivacity of style which forms a model for similar narrations.

PICTORIAL GUIDE OF THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

From the press of L. J. Rosso, Buenos Aires, the Columbus Memorial Library has received a remarkably handsome volume embodying a pictorial guide to travelers in the Argentine Republic. Photographs of celebrities; reproductions of famous estancias; sketches of public gardens and buildings, prize animals, and industrial establishments are all presented as an index to the conditions existent throughout this wonderful country. Supplementary tables covering statistical information of various sorts are also included, as well as complete lists of the diplomatic and consular officers serving at home and abroad in Argentine interests at the close of 1907. A commercial directory of Buenos Aires is a prominent feature of the book.

GOLD MINING IN COLOMBIA.

The gold mines of Colombia are fully described in the interesting and technical pamphlet entitled "*L'Industrie aurifère en Colombie*," by M. A. DEMANGEON, formerly chief engineer of the *Société de Travaux Miniers* and ex-director of the San Nicolas and also the Sierra de Oro mining companies. Mr. DEMANGEON gives the history of the gold mining industry of Colombia from the beginning up to the present time. Full details relative to the legislation governing the industry and the granting of concessions are also given which will be of practical value to those intending to engage in gold mining in the Republic.

PLAN OF THE AMAZON RIVER.

Supplementary to the March, 1907, issue of the Bulletin of the Lima Geographical Society, a plan of the Amazon River from Iquitos to Manaos has been received by the Columbus Memorial Library. It embodies the results of the most recent surveys of the region under Colonel PORTILLO and applied in the service of the Booth Company's steamers.

NEW COLOMBIAN GUIDE.

In the "*Guia de la Republica de Colombia*," published by MANUEL M. ZAMORRA, Bogota, 1907, a useful gazetteer of the country is available. Information concerning each city, town, village, mountain, river, etc., is furnished in a concise form, and, in addition to the usual geographical, political, and statistical data, valuable historical information is included covering the most important places.

IMPORTANT MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BOARD.

The regular monthly meeting of the Governing Board of the International Bureau of the American Republics was held February 5, 1900, in the diplomatic reception room of the Department of State. The Secretary of State, chairman *ex officio,* presided, the following countries being represented besides the United States: Argentine Republic, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Peru, and Uruguay.

The report of the committee appointed at the meeting of the Board on December 4, 1907, to report to the Governing Board the measures to be taken to carry out the conventions and resolutions signed and passed at the Third Pan-American Conference of Rio de Janeiro, 1906, was unanimously approved. The Director of the Bureau was authorized to take the required steps to carry out the recommendations made in the report.

The special resolution on the Fourth Pan-American Conference, introduced by the Costa Rican Minister and seconded by the Bolivian Minister, at the regular meeting of January 8, 1908, was unanimously adopted, as follows:

"*Resolved,* That the next Conference of the American Republics be held at the city of Buenos Aires, Argentine Republic, in the year 1910."

The report in full of the committee mentioned above follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE APPOINTED AT THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE INTERNATIONAL BUREAU OF THE AMERICAN REPUBLICS, HELD DECEMBER 4, 1907, TO REPORT TO THE GOVERNING BOARD MEASURES WHICH SHOULD BE TAKEN TO CARRY OUT THE CONVENTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS SIGNED AND PASSED AT THE THIRD PAN-AMERICAN CONFERENCE HELD AT RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL, 1906.

The Chairman and Members of the Governing Board of the International Bureau of American Republics:

GENTLEMEN: The undersigned, having been appointed at a meeting of the Governing Board, held December 4, 1907, to report on what measures should be taken to carry out the conventions and resolutions of the Third Pan-American Conference, held at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 1906, have, with the assistance of the Director and Secretary of the Bureau, carefully considered the work imposed upon them and now have the honor to report as follows:

The Third Pan-American Conference signed, as a result of its deliberations, four (4) conventions and fourteen (14) resolutions, as follows:

CONVENTIONS.

I. Establishing the status of naturalized citizens who again take up their residence in the country of their origin.
II. Pecuniary claims.
III. Patents of invention, drawings and industrial models, trade marks, and literary and artistic property.
IV. International law.

RESOLUTIONS.

1. Arbitration.
2. Reorganization of the Bureau of the American Republics.
3. Building for the International Bureau of the American Republics.
4. Recommending the creation of special divisions in the departments of foreign affairs and determining their functions.
5. Section of commerce, customs, and commercial statistics.
6. Public debts.
7. Liberal professions.
8. Commercial relations.
9. Future conferences.
10. Natural resources.
11. Sanitary police.
12. Intercontinental railway.
13. The coffee industry.
14. Fluctuations in exchange.

(A) In the natural order of events each one of the Governments represented at the Rio de Janeiro Conference should have received from the Secretary of the Conference authenticated copies of the conventions and resolutions there signed. As it seems, however, that some of the members of the Governing Board are in doubt as to whether their Governments have received such authenticated copies, the committee recommends that the Director of the Bureau be authorized to communicate by cable directly with the Secretary of the Conference at Rio de Janeiro and ascertain if this preliminary step has been taken.

As it is known, moreover, that some of the Governments have reported the conventions to their respective Congresses for consideration and ratification, but as the records are incomplete, it is recommended that each member of the Governing Board ascertain, by cable if necessary, just what action has been taken by his Government and inform the Director accordingly.

In the event this investigation shows that some of the Governments have not yet taken steps for such consideration or ratification, the committee recommends that the Governing Board urge that final action should be taken as soon as possible, in order that any

objections or exceptions to the conventions proposed by the different Governments may be laid before the Governing Board, and that it may make recommendations to the next Pan-American Conference for the necessary modifications which will cause the conventions to receive general ratification.

The specific action taken by the different Governments in the consideration and ratification of the conventions and resolutions, as shown by the records of the International Bureau and of the State Department of the United States, is given in a memorandum attached to this report.

(B) 1. The resolution of arbitration was submitted to the Second Hague Conference, as required, so that no further action is necessary.

2. The resolution on the reorganization of the International Bureau of American Republics depends for its consummation largely upon favorable action by the different Governments in the matter of increasing their respective quotas fifty (50) per cent for its support, in accordance with the unanimous resolution of the Governing Board passed at the May meeting, 1907. The committee recommends that each member of the Governing Board urge upon his Government the pressing necessity of the approval of this increased appropriation, so that the new budget may take effect with the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1908. As certain Governments are still in arrears for quotas of past years, the committee recommends that the members of the Governing Board representing the countries in arrrears urge early payment of the sums due, in order that the efficiency of the Bureau shall not be lessened by lack of the needed funds.

3. In the matter of the resolution regarding the new building of the International Bureau of American Republics, it can be said that excellent progress is being made through the generous gift of $750,000 by Mr. ANDREW CARNEGIE; but, as some of the Governments are in arrears on their quotas for the building, it is recommended that the members of the Governing Board representing such countries urge early payment of the said quotas, so that they may be available for the expenses connected with the construction of the new building.

4. In the matter of the resolution favoring the appointment in each country of a committee, responsible to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, who shall assist in securing the approval of the resolutions adopted at the International American Conferences, and who shall cooperate with the International Bureau of the American Republics for the carrying out of this work in each country, it is recommended that each member of the Governing Board urge upon his Government the appointment of said committee without delay and forward to the Bureau the names of those constituting said committees.

5. In the matter of the resolution creating a special section of commerce, customs, and commercial statistics as a subordinate

division of the International Bureau, the committee recommends that the Director be empowered to make such changes and additions in the present staff of the Bureau and to make such expenditures as the revenue of the Bureau may permit, without curtailing the regular work, to carry out the details of this resolution.

6. The resolution covering the collection of public debts was submitted to the Second Hague Conference, as required, so that no further action is necessary.

7. In the matter of the resolution covering the adoption or ratification of the treaty upon the practice of the liberal professions, signed at the Second Pan-American Conference in Mexico, January 28, 1902, it can be said that the treaty has been ratified, so far, according to the information in the possession of the Bureau, by the five Central American Republics and by Peru and Bolivia. It is recommended that each member of the Governing Board ascertain as soon as possible from his Government what action his country has taken, or may propose to take, on this resolution.

8. In the matter of the resolution covering commercial relations, it is recommended that the work outlined by this resolution be combined with that required by the section of commerce, customs, and commercial statistics, and that the Director be thereby authorized to take the necessary steps under this plan to secure the needed data.

9. In the matter of future conferences, it is recommended that the place and date of holding the Fourth Pan-American Congress be immediately determined, in accordance with the resolution passed at the January, 1908, meeting of the Governing Board, to the effect that said conference should be held at Buenos Aires, Argentine Republic, in 1910.

10. The resolution as to the development of natural resources and means of communication within the various Republics of America is covered by the action recommended in the matter of the section of commerce, customs, and commercial statistics.

11. In the matter of the resolution as to sanitary police, it can be said that the Third International Sanitary Conference was held, as resolved, in the City of Mexico, December 2–7, 1907. Several important recommendations were made, but the transactions of the Conference have not yet been published. It was unanimously resolved to hold the next Sanitary Conference at San José, Costa Rica, in 1909. The International Bureau was represented at the Third International Sanitary Conference by Mr. Francisco J. Yanes, Secretary of the Bureau, who has prepared a report printed in the January issue of the Monthly Bulletin.

12. In the matter of the resolution on the Intercontinental Railway, it can be said that an important step toward the realization of this plan is contained in the Convention on Communications, signed

by the Delegates to the Central American Peace Conference, which met in Washington in the building of the International Bureau of the American Republics in the months of November and December, 1907. This Convention provides that each of the signatory Governments appoint a commisssion to study and propose the necessary measures to carry on the work of the Intercontinental Railway within its own territory, and, upon the approval of their report, bids may be asked, through the International Bureau of the American Republics, for letting contracts for the construction of the lines.

For the purpose of obtaining the exact information from the various American Republics interested in the project of an intercontinental railway, it is recommended that each member of the Governing Board urge upon his Government the necessity of taking steps in the near future to provide the Bureau of the American Republics with the data required by the resolution.

13. The resolution covering the coffee industry provides for a meeting in the city of São Paulo, Brazil, and, of course, it remains for the Government of Brazil to take the initiative as to the holding of such a conference.

14. The resolution as to fluctuations in exchange calls for an effort by the various Governments toward a detailed study of their monetary systems and fluctuations in exchange to be submitted to the International Bureau, and, in turn, a résumé will be there prepared for the next Pan-American Conference. It is recommended that the Director of the Bureau be authorized to consult with recognized authorities on this subject and to submit to the Governing Board for its information and approval a plan of investigation to be laid before the different Governments.

In conclusion the committee, having submitted this report, recommends that its labors be considered as at an end, and that further action which might require their attention be referred to the regular Supervisory Committee of the Board.

J. N. Leger.
Epifanio Portela.
Felipe Pardo.

Washington, D. C., *February 1, 1908.*

MEMORANDUM OF ACTION OF THE DIFFERENT AMERICAN GOVERNMENTS IN THE MATTER OF THE CONSIDERATION AND RATIFICATION OF THE CONVENTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS OF THE THIRD PAN-AMERICAN CONFERENCE, AS SHOWN BY THE RECORDS OF THE INTERNATIONAL BUREAU OF THE AMERICAN REPUBLICS AND OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

CONVENTIONS.

On March 2, 1907, the President of the United States submitted to Congress the four conventions signed at Rio de Janeiro. The conventions on Pecuniary Claims and Naturalization have been ratified, but no action has yet been taken on the other two.[a]

The President of the Dominican Republic submitted to Congress the four conventions. The only convention approved at the last session was that of the Compilation of a Code of International Law, as Congress adjourned without taking action on the other conventions.

The Government of Salvador on May 11, 1907, ratified the four conventions.

Brazil ratified, on December 27, 1907, the convention on International Law, and the Executive was authorized to provide for the necessary expenses for the meeting of the Conference of Jurists at Rio de Janeiro this year.

The President of Uruguay, in a message to the Uruguayan Congress March 27, 1907, recommended that favorable action be taken to put in operation the convention on International Law, and suggested that Dr. Gonzalo Ramirez be appointed as the representative at the Rio Conference.

The Chilean Government, according to a dispatch of the American Minister at Santiago, July 3, 1907, decided to appoint the Committee on Resolutions of the International American Conferences, whose duty it is to obtain the ratification of said resolutions.

The Republic of Salvador has ratified all of the resolutions.

DEATH OF MR. ARTHUR W. FERGUSSON.

At the meeting of the Governing Board of the International Bureau of the American Republics on February 5, 1908, the Minister of Costa Rica moved that the Board take suitable action upon the untimely and lamented death of Mr. Arthur W. Fergusson, Executive Secretary of the Civil Government of the Philippines. Mr. Fergusson was the official Spanish interpreter and translator of the First Pan-American Conference and subsequently chief translator in

[a] Convention on International Law was ratified on February 3, 1908.

the Bureau for many years, having also served in that capacity in Paris at the time of the Treaty of Peace. Mr. FERGUSSON left the Bureau to serve as official interpreter and translator to the United States Civil Commission in the Philippine Islands, and was subsequently promoted, by reason of his excellent and meritorious services, to the position of Executive Secretary, which he held at the time of his death. The Ministers of Cuba and Nicaragua stated that they heartily seconded the motion of the Costa Rican Minister, the former suggesting that the Director of the International Bureau be authorized to express to Mr. FERGUSSON's family the profound regret of the Governing Board on their bereavement.

COMMERCIAL RELATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES AND SOUTH AMERICA.

When Prof. WILLIAM R. SHEPHERD, of Columbia University, New York City, made his journey, during the summer of 1907, throughout South America, the International Bureau requested him to conduct certain investigations involving the commercial relations of the United States and the South American countries, and to provide the Bureau with a report thereon. Professor SHEPHERD has submitted an extended and thorough paper, and such portions of it as would be of value to the business interests of the United States are given below, with, of course, the understanding that the Bureau accepts no responsibility for the statements:

EXTRACTS FROM THE REPORT OF PROFESSOR SHEPHERD.

"From time immemorial commerce has been regarded as perhaps the most efficacious means of acquiring and diffusing knowledge about distant lands. In the backwardness of the trade of the United States with South America, therefore, lurks a primary cause of the ignorance prevalent in this country about its continental neighbor. No one denies so obvious a fact any more than he would be disposed to scout the further assertion that foreign capital and foreign immigration are quite as indispensable to the growth and prosperity of the republics in South America as they have been to the national development of the United States. Both personal investigation and the series of publications issued by the South American Governments describing the resources of their respective territories, together with the special facilities offered to foreign enterprise, have made the demand for such immigration and capital known. Furthermore, the actual experience gained in the work of introducing these factors of progress has revealed, not only the profit that accrues to the investor of brawn, brains, and money, but the benefit also that is conferred

upon the South American States themselves in helping to remove the hindrances that have retarded their development since the foundation of their national independence, and in providing the means necessary to assure their national advancement.

"Were the United States to acquire its proper share in the process, the financial and other advantages to the American citizens concerned would be evident enough, while at the same time our spirit and enterprise, our democratic institutions, our educational impulses and achievements, and our social, economic, intellectual, and political training in general could be brought directly to bear upon the States of South America in a manner that could not fail to be of service to them. Should we be able to work out and apply the qualities and methods needful to accomplish so desirable an object, the South Americans on their own part might learn to mistrust the United States and its supposed designs far less than is now the case, and in so doing might be inclined correspondingly more to accept and to propagate the ideas and the practices of Pan-Americanism.

INFERIORITY OF AMERICAN TRADE.

"A study in outline of the peculiar circumstances, the national policies, the individual traits, and the business methods characteristic of the Americans and of the chief peoples of Europe concerned in the commercial and industrial development of South America may serve to indicate certain general causes of the inferiority attendant thus far upon the trade of the United States, and may light the way, also, to a solution of the problems that have arisen in connection with the efforts that are being made to improve it. For the purposes of this study, however, no lists of prices at which American goods may be sold, as compared with those at which European commodities may be bought, in the South American markets, will be supplied, and no concrete examples of the lines of American goods for which a demand exists, or might be created there, will be furnished. These matters require a technical treatment such as a business expert alone may give. A discussion of them could hardly fall within the limits of a report confined to emphasizing a number of primary reasons for the backwardness of our trade in South America, which do not need a substantiation by figures, or an expression in terms of merchandise, to make their force apparent or their meaning clear. The considerations and the conclusions which it presents are intended to point out broadly the obstacles that have impeded our own progress, and to mark the factors that have contributed most to the success of our European competitors. The bases upon which its statements rest are derived in part from personal observations, in part from opinions expressed by South Americans themselves, and in part also from views held by American exporters alive to the situation.

"European immigration and European capital, joined to the possession of wondrous natural resources and coupled with the exercise of American ability and energy, have placed the United States in the eminent position that it occupies among the great powers of the world to-day. Leaving the influence of European immigration outside of the area of discussion, it is a well-known fact that, until quite recently, this country was dependent, to a large extent, upon the financial aid of Europe for its development. It enacted the rôle of a debtor nation precisely as the states of South America have been doing, and as they are likely to do, for some time to come. On our own part we shall have, as we had for a number of years before the existing financial disturbance appeared, a surplus of capital to invest either directly in South America, or in the production of commodities that may find a market there. Why this amount of capital has been diverted to other parts of the world, and how it may be turned toward South America, are but so many phases of the general question.

GEOGRAPHICAL TREND OF TRADE.

"The circumstances of historical origin, geographical position, and habits of association have caused the currents of trade and migration to and from the United States to run east and west rather than north and south. Since our excess products are sent to Europe and to Asia for the most part, and sold at a fair degree of profit, we appear to think that, normally, the United States does not need the trade of South America, and will not need it perhaps until, in order to forestall the consequences of overproduction, we shall be compelled to seek an outlet in the south. That the market there may be preempted ere such a situation arrives we are loth to believe is possible.

"To an eminent degree what has been said of the trend of the trade of the United States is true also of that of South America in its relation to Europe. So far as the countries along the west coast of that continent are concerned, certain conditions, due to their geographical location, to the number and characteristics of their aboriginal population, or to both, have impeded their development in a special manner, rendering them quite dependent upon their communication with Europe, either directly or through the medium of the States that face Europe. Nor has the connection established some time ago between Asia and the west coast of South America by means of a Japanese line of steamships led to any marked change as yet in the customary direction eastward of the west coast trade. The proximity to Europe of the eastern States themselves, combined with the advantages of soil and climate which they possess, has kept the current of their commerce and migration in what might seem to be the normal

channels from east to west. The emigrants from Europe, furthermore, who have peopled the republics of South America in general are familiar of course with the products of their native lands, and unless powerful inducements to the contrary are made effective, will prefer such products to articles brought from other countries, and will maintain a constant demand for them.

CONNECTION BETWEEN EUROPE AND SOUTH AMERICA.

"Given these conditions, it is not surprising that the communication between South America and Europe should be so close. To develop it, trading companies, commercial agencies, steamships, sailing vessels, banks, and other instrumentalities of traffic have multiplied enormously. In this process of action the share of the United States has been comparatively insignificant.

"As is well known, Germany, Great Britain, and Italy are the chief competitors of the United States in the South American trade. In accounting for their success one must remember at the outset that they were the first on the ground. In these countries, also, there is a relatively tremendous pressure of population, accompanied by a corresponding absence of business opportunities and a lack of suitable markets at home for domestic products. Conversely, the inducements to seek personal prosperity and a commercial outlet abroad must be exceedingly strong. They affect the men of mediocre abilities who are content to struggle along under adverse conditions far less than they do the men whose powers are commensurate with their ambitions. As a rule, therefore, the Germans, the English, and the Italians best fitted to cope with the situation in other parts of the world are the ones who go forth, and this migration is bound to continue so long as their respective countries necessitate it.

"That precisely the reverse of these circumstances is true of the United States requires no confirmation at length. The single illustration of the difficulty found in attracting American clerks to South America might, however, be cited. A young Englishman or a young German of fair ability will go there for a salary of $1,000 a year or even for less; whereas a young American of about the same ability would demand double that sum. American firms indeed doing business in South America are frequently forced to employ English or German clerks.

GERMAN COMPETITION.

"The most powerful competitor with whom the United States will have to reckon in its trade relations with South America is the German. The way in which British influence and British capital have been undermined or replaced by German factors of this sort constitutes one of the most remarkable phases in the recent economic de-

velopment of the southern continent. In a number of cases the names of the corporations or firms concerned may remain English, but the basis and the strength they possess are German. The native estimate also of the relative degree of business ability and power of adaptation displayed by the chief groups of foreigners engaged in trade generally ranks the German first as it puts the American last.

"The skill, tact, thrift, shrewdness in investment, and the adaptive, not to say imitative, instincts of the typical German are qualities that seem to assure his success in South America. They are strikingly exemplified in such German centers of activity as Valdivia in southern Chile, and Rio Grande in southern Brazil, but they may be studied to advantage elsewhere as well. The German learns the language and acquaints himself with the characteristics and habits of thought of the people with whom he has to deal before he begins business. He is tolerant of native sympathies and prejudices. Even if he can win no more than the respect of the people of the country, he avoids anything that might suggest antagonism. Rather than hold himself socially aloof, he will marry into a native family. With the politics of the country he does not concern himself. The German, furthermore, works long and late. On holidays he may yield to native wishes so far as to keep the front doors of his office or store closed, but he is actually at work. From time to time he travels to the lands of his foreign competitors, where he masters the secrets of their trade and manufacture. Returning to the scene of his business, he carefully combines the knowledge he has thus obtained with his own practical skill, so as to meet successfully the demands of his native customers. Unlike his foreign competitors, however, he does not assume that the mere reputation of German goods, or the utterance of the talismanic words "Made in Germany," will be sufficient to insure an immediate sale. Instead of showing catalogues, he shows the articles themselves, keeping a suitable number of them in stock, and he is ever prepared to give a practical demonstration of their operation. Finally, if his customers desire it, he grants them a liberal credit in the form to which they are accustomed.

SHIPPING FACILITIES AND FREIGHT RATES.

"According to the statements of American exporters practically familiar with the situation, our shipping facilities to South America are inadequate, and the freight rates on goods sent thither are higher than those charged on export from Europe for about the same distance and under similar circumstances of shipment. To be sure, it is a truism to say that the great majority of vessels carrying American products to the southern continent sail under foreign flags, and hence net the profits of the transportation to their foreign owners. But, apart altogether from this consideration, the actual number of such

vessels and the accommodations that they offer for passengers and freight, taken as a whole, are as insufficient as the dates of their departures and arrivals are more or less irregular. To the east coast and to the southern portion of the west coast of South America passengers may always go and freight may often be sent more conveniently by way of Europe; whereas, so far at least as the shipment of freight from the United States is concerned, the west coast traffic is greatly neglected.

"However true it may be that, owing to the rate war which has prevailed for some time among various shipping lines connected with the South American trade, the freight rates now in operation are comparatively low. This is an abnormal and temporary circumstance that can not be used to solve the general problem. Right here it must be remembered that the freight rates on goods sent by any direct line of vessels from the United States to South America, or to the east coast, at all events, and the southern portion of the west coast of that continent, are calculated, more or less, on the basis of what the American exporter would have to pay, first, for having his goods shipped to Europe, and, second, for having them dispatched from Europe to South America. That is to say, while the freight rates on the direct lines from the United States to South America may be lower than the two other rates combined, they are actually higher than the rate from Europe alone. In the case of certain commodities, like grain, lumber, and oil, with the production of which Europe cannot compete, the freight rates now demanded do not appear to work any hardship. On the other hand, where competition in the sale of manufactured articles is keen, it happens that, other things being equal, the German or the English exporter, paying, as he does, less than the American for the transportation of his goods, can afford to undersell the American in the markets of South America.

HOW TO OBTAIN TRADE.

"Though acknowledging the existence of the circumstances earlier sketched, which seem naturally to draw South America to Europe rather than to the United States, and though admitting that American national policies in reference to the protective tariff and navigation laws might be modified to advantage, those circumstances can not be counteracted in any considerable degree or these policies altered with any assurance of real benefit, in my opinion, until the views and methods of American business men regarding the trade with the countries of South America undergo a change that will enable us to compete successfully with our present rivals, and particularly with the Germans. Here the ultimate responsibility lies. Situated geographically, as we are, about as distant from South America at large as Europe is, with the completion of the Panama Canal a question

of the future, and excluded thus far from the possible advantages of communication by railway, we must learn and apply what our European competitors think and do if we wish to obtain our share of the southern trade. They have been successful in a long experience, while we have just begun, and the beginnings have been less auspicious than might have been desired. Habitual currents of trade, the protective tariff, navigation laws, and ship subsidies all apart, we can get our portion of the commerce in question whenever we are able to understand that the American way of doing things will not work universally in South America; that in many respects Europe is quite capable of producing commodities equal, if not superior, to our own; and that we must adapt ourselves to the pressure of circumstances in the hope that our native abilities, added to the examples of European experience, may enable us to improve vastly upon our models in that region. Whatever is now to be said, therefore, by way of indicating the extent to which our views and methods are defective, will serve to show how far our European competitors have the advantage of us; because, taking them as a whole, they think and do just the opposite of what we think and do, and are prosperous at it. On the other hand, there are certain methods of carrying on business which are presumed to be American in origin, and yet are not sufficiently employed in South America.

"Not only do we as a nation know practically nothing about South America, but apparently we are not inclined to add to our slender stock of information about it. Yankee inquisitiveness in the concerns of the Western Hemisphere does not extend, it would seem, below the Isthmus of Panama. The stories we hear about revolutions and earthquakes, Indians and mixed races, tropical suns, jungles, animals, and insects provide us alternately with amusement and aversion, while they deepen our ignorance of the real conditions. In the doings of mankind alone we are apt to assume that what may have been true of any country of South America at one time, or of various countries at different times, must be true of all the countries at all times. Priding ourselves, furthermore, on our racial and national superiority, we are disposed to be contemptuous, patronizing, or threatening, as the mood of the moment may incline.

PRICES OF AMERICAN GOODS.

"Taking up another aspect of the general subject under consideration, it should be said that the prices of American goods are too high to warrant a widespread consumption of them in South America. This circumstance may be due in part to the burdens incumbent upon transportation, and in part also to the better class of materials used, and to the greater cost of the labor employed in their manufacture. Perhaps, too, a native prejudice based on the presumed discrimination

of our protective tariff against South American imports may create a sentiment in turn against the purchase of American articles, which forestalls an actual examination of them to determine whether the prices fixed are relatively higher than those asked by other foreigners for a similar class of goods. The alleged superiority of American materials and of American workmanship over those of European origin may now have come to be a more or less gratuitous assumption. At all events the question is open to discussion, particularly after one has noted the fine quality of many classes of European articles, and the readiness with which both Europeans and Americans copy one another's productions.

"But even granting the intrinsic superiority of the American commodity, backed by the influence of a manufacturing reputation, it does not follow that the South American buyer will be disposed to recognize such superiority if the article costs more than something else that appears to be just as good. If the standard of quality of the American product is to be maintained, and the price is to continue the same, either a systematic campaign of education in the special value of the American article, as compared with the claims urged in behalf of some European commodity, will have to be carried on among the native purchasers, or the American manufacturer will have to content himself with a large output and with small profits.

METHODS OF SELLING.

"That if the South Americans want our goods they should come and get them, and that anything will do for South America, are ideas which seem to be fairly prevalent in the United States. If he does not knowingly send inferior articles, as is sometimes charged against him, our manufacturer is often slow about filling orders, and careless or indifferent about returning things, especially parts of machinery, sent him for repair or replacement. He is apt to be unwilling to change in form or in substance what may befit the needs of consumers in his own country so as to satisfy the requirements of the South American purchasers.

PACKING AND MARKING GOODS.

"Nor does the American manufacturer feel inclined to alter his method of packing or his style of presentation. The goods sent from the United States are frequently packed in sizes and measures, as well as given designations, not used in South America. At times the box, case, cask, etc., is too large for the purpose, thus compelling the importer to pay for an extra size or weight at the custom-house and elsewhere. It is not unusual to find that the American manufacturer makes little effort to safeguard his consignments against breakage,

leakage, or theft. Huge boxes, flimsily constructed of thin boards and unprovided with iron bands or other means of security, are filled with heavy merchandise and dispatched to South America, only to be broken open intentionally by thieving freight handlers or accidentally in the process of transference from lighters or wharves to steamers and sailing vessels, or vice versa. Anyone who has watched a lighter being loaded or unloaded, along the Pacific coast of South America in particular, and has observed the pillage and destruction that frequently ensue as a result of poor packing, will understand how negligent in this respect the American exporter is. At times, also, he fails to take out a sufficient amount of insurance on his consignments against damage in some form; nor does he always protect himself otherwise in an adequate fashion against the foreign shipping companies that carry his goods. He does not mark the articles exported as carefully as he should. Not only are the indications as to form, size, contents, etc., omitted from the labels, erroneously stated, or wrongly placed, but the actual addresses of the consignees are incorrectly given, or so poorly put on as to become obliterated before the goods can arrive at their supposed destination. If he knows, also, of the cheap imitations of American articles, and of the frequent falsification of their trade-marks in South America, he appears to make little effort to counteract the underselling that follows. The manufacture of 'American shoes' with 'American' trade-marks constitutes but one example of the practice.

NECESSITY FOR KNOWLEDGE OF SPANISH AND PORTUGUESE.

"Given the shrewdness accredited to the American business man, his failure to spread his reputation in South America is all the more conspicuous. Unmindful of the difference in speech, he often answers in English letters of inquiry addressed to him in some other language, and sends to the inquirer and to others elaborately illustrated catalogues printed in English as well. Neither the reply nor the catalogue is apt to serve the purpose. When he sends out a traveling salesman he selects too commonly a person unacquainted with any language but his own, and unfitted alike by temperament and by training to deal with South Americans.

SALESMEN AND AGENTS.

"Instead of taking the trouble, furthermore, to penetrate into the interior of the countries, the American salesman usually contents himself with visiting the coast towns and coming into contact merely with English importing houses or with German establishments of the same sort in which English is spoken. Through the medium of the salesman in question, or directly on the part of the American house

itself, agencies are often set up in the very headquarters of our chief competitors, instead of being intrusted to native hands. How greatly the German or English firm is benefited by such an admission to American trade secrets may be conjectured. Even in the cases where a native agency may be created, it is not an unusual occurrence for the American house to wait until the agency has built up a good market for any particular article, and then to turn over the sale of it to a newly established branch of the American concern. Resentful at what he considers to be unfair treatment, the former agent may see fit to impede, if he can, the sale of what he had formerly promoted.

WARNING AS TO ADVERTISING.

"Another commentary on the lack of business ability shown by the American merchant engaged in the South American trade, is that furnished by the comparative readiness with which he advertises in certain periodicals printed in Spanish, published in the United States, and circulated chiefly among the American advertisers themselves! Diligent inquiry among business men in South America showed that such periodicals, even when they had been heard of, were seldom if ever looked at. Occasionally, however, one of these papers may be discovered in a dusty corner of the library attached to some Chamber of Commerce or Board of Trade, simply occupying space and ignored.

"In this connection it should be remarked that all South Americans who read newspapers and other periodicals are inclined to peruse them with a degree of avidity which has no parallel in the United States, save perhaps in some of the remote districts of the country. Everything from the highly spiced editorial down to the insipid "Agents Wanted" may be read and even commented upon. The American manufacturer or dealer, therefore, who desires to attract the South American market should advertise in the principal newspapers, illustrated magazines, and business journals actually published in the countries concerned, and conducted under native auspices. Our patent-medicine men know enough to proclaim directly from the columns of the South American periodical the extraordinary virtues of certain emulsions, pink pills, electric belts, and divers elixirs. If by means of index fingers of warning or by other devices they beckon credulous humanity in South America to their wares as successfully as they appear to do in the United States, why should not the American manufacturer advertise wisely that which will be of real benefit to the consumer and to the producer alike? So far as such legitimate advertising is concerned, unless the subject-matter is to be changed frequently, or some other reason to the contrary exists, the advertisements need not be inserted in the

periodical chosen more than once a month. South Americans are fond of what is, or what purports to be, a novelty even in the shape of an advertisement.

MUTUAL DISTRUST.

"The ordinary man of business in the United States is prone to think that the South Americans with whom he may have to deal are naturally or habitually dishonest—a state of mind that seems to be heartily reciprocated by the South Americans in turn after they have come into contact with some of the American concerns commercially interested in the southern continent. Often the American capitalist declines to invest his money in South American enterprises because he believes that it can not be protected. Certain classes in the countries of South America, it is true, affected by the spirit of "Knownothingism," do not favor the introduction of foreign capital on a great scale at all, and view with apprehension the inpouring of foreign immigrants. Fearing a possible expropriation, they oppose more or less secretly the spread of foreign influence. Nevertheless a general desire for the introduction of capital from the United States exists in practically all the countries of the southern continent. No doubt they appreciate its intrinsic value for the purpose of developing the natural resources of each, but they have a shrewd notion, also, of the additional benefit to be derived from a cheapening of capital were the American commodity to be placed in competition with the British and the German article.

BANKING FACILITIES.

"Owing to the absence of American banks in South America the business enterprises of our citizens in that continent are more or less at the financial mercy of branches of European banking institutions that naturally direct their efforts to favoring the commerce of their respective countries against our own. Taking it for granted that the establishment of American banks would facilitate American trade by rendering it independent of European corporations, it is no less true that such financial institutions would afford large pecuniary returns to their founders and operators. In this connection one need only to mention the profits of from 8 to 15 per cent, and even more, made annually on exchanges, drafts, and the like by the European banking houses.

"With many of the South American Republics the United States has no arrangement by treaty for the issuance of money orders. For this reason the South American who desires to pay for some article ordered from the United States has to effect payment through a European agency. The delay and the expense connected with this transaction tend to discourage the importation of American products.

MAIL FACILITIES.

"In view of the perseverance with which the American has learned to dominate his own country, it seems odd that he should be daunted by the slowness of communication between the two continents, by the irregularities of transportation along the coasts of South America, to say nothing of the situation in many regions of the interior, and by the dilatory methods of doing business not infrequently encountered among South Americans, although this characteristic varies considerably in one country and another, and even in parts of the same country. Describing some of these sources of discouragement it may be said that, to begin with, while the mail service between the United States and the east coast of South America by way of Europe is fairly good, that between this country and the west coast of the continent is very bad. Seven weeks are sometimes required for a letter from New York to reach Valparaiso. Should a steamer be detained in port the mail is seldom transshipped. The result is that of two letters the one last sent may be the first to arrive. Passengers and freight carried along the west coast often fare no better. The rates of transportation for the same distance are apt to vary from time to time. Cattle and cargo may be waited for days together at some insignificant group of wooden shacks perched on a barren hillside, while in the absence of a harbor the vessel rolls around in the ocean. Not only is the speed of the west coast steamers exceedingly slow, but irksome delays frequently arise from the failure of the captain or the medical officer of a port to pay his usual visit until it suits him to do so. Strikes of freight handlers, too, are not uncommon, and the accumulation of perishable merchandise on wharves and shore fronts is likely to be the consequence. In this case commission merchants and other persons interested in the commodities are accustomed to insert notices in the newspapers to the effect that, so long as the process of accumulation continues, they will not hold themselves responsible for loss or injury to the merchandise in question.

CUSTOMS DUTIES AND CHARGES.

"Many customs and regulations, moreover, bearing upon the actual introduction of goods into a South American country have to be learned by the exporter, often at the cost of an unpleasant experience. In the first place he has to remember that special import duties are sometimes levied on certain articles, although such duties may not be mentioned under the heading of the articles themselves in the customs law or in the official schedule. They simply must be ascertained from other sources of information. Unusual care has to be exercised in the choice of a custom-house broker and forwarding

agent Charges for storage, for discharging the cargo from the ship, for placing it on shore or on the docks, for the use of the winch, the crane, and the docks, for pilotage, for carting or otherwise transporting goods from the shore or the dock to the custom-house, and for chemical analyses of food products, liquors, drugs, and the like, as well as for proper measures of precaution against theft or injury of any sort, must all be taken into account, with special reference to the practices peculiar to the country in question. Some commodities, like oil and its products, lumber, machinery, and agricultural implements, which may be imported regularly and in large quantities, are not so subject to the delays and hazards that may befall other kinds of merchandise. These articles are often given direct dispatch to the importer, and the duties, if any, are paid without the necessity of having the goods pass through the formalities of the custom-house. Yet even in this case no fixed rule seems to prevail. Much depends upon the arrangement that the custom-house broker may be able to make with the custom-house officials.

AGENTS ON CIRCUIT.

"For the purpose of ascertaining the nature of such local regulations and customs not only, but of studying the local conditions and needs as well, American business agents should be sent out on a circuit of the South American States. In addition to the powers of practical observation and description which might properly be assumed of them from the start, the agents in question should possess so fluent a knowledge of the languages spoken there as would enable them to dispense altogether with the dubious services of interpreters, and should carry with them all the necessary literature printed in the language of the country in which they might happen to be. They should display, also, a readiness of adaptation to South American habits and temperament, and a corresponding ability, besides, to subordinate for the nonce the provincial American sense of superiority. If the expense of maintaining these agents would be too great for any individual concern to undergo, it might be borne by a combination of business establishments that would agree to confide the sale of their goods to such agents in common.

AN EXPORTING SYNDICATE.

"As an extension of this idea it might be well for American exporters interested in the trade with South America to create a sort of syndicate for the general operations of sale in any particular country or countries. They might establish there a central agency and warehouse in which samples of their goods could be displayed, and their circulars, catalogues, and other means of affording technical information could be used to advantage. Should any native enterprise, furthermore, carry on a permanent exposition of industrial products in their various stages of manufacture, the American houses doing

business in the country should come into immediate connection with it, either through their agents, or through a dispatch of the proper information about their own lines of goods. In any case, whether the American merchants act jointly or individually in their pursuit of trade with South America, they should keep a reasonably large stock of goods, including the articles necessary for repair and replacement, in the country itself, both for sale and for exhibit. These goods should be placed in charge, preferably, of a direct agency or branch of the main business, or put into the hands of capable and trustworthy native agents.

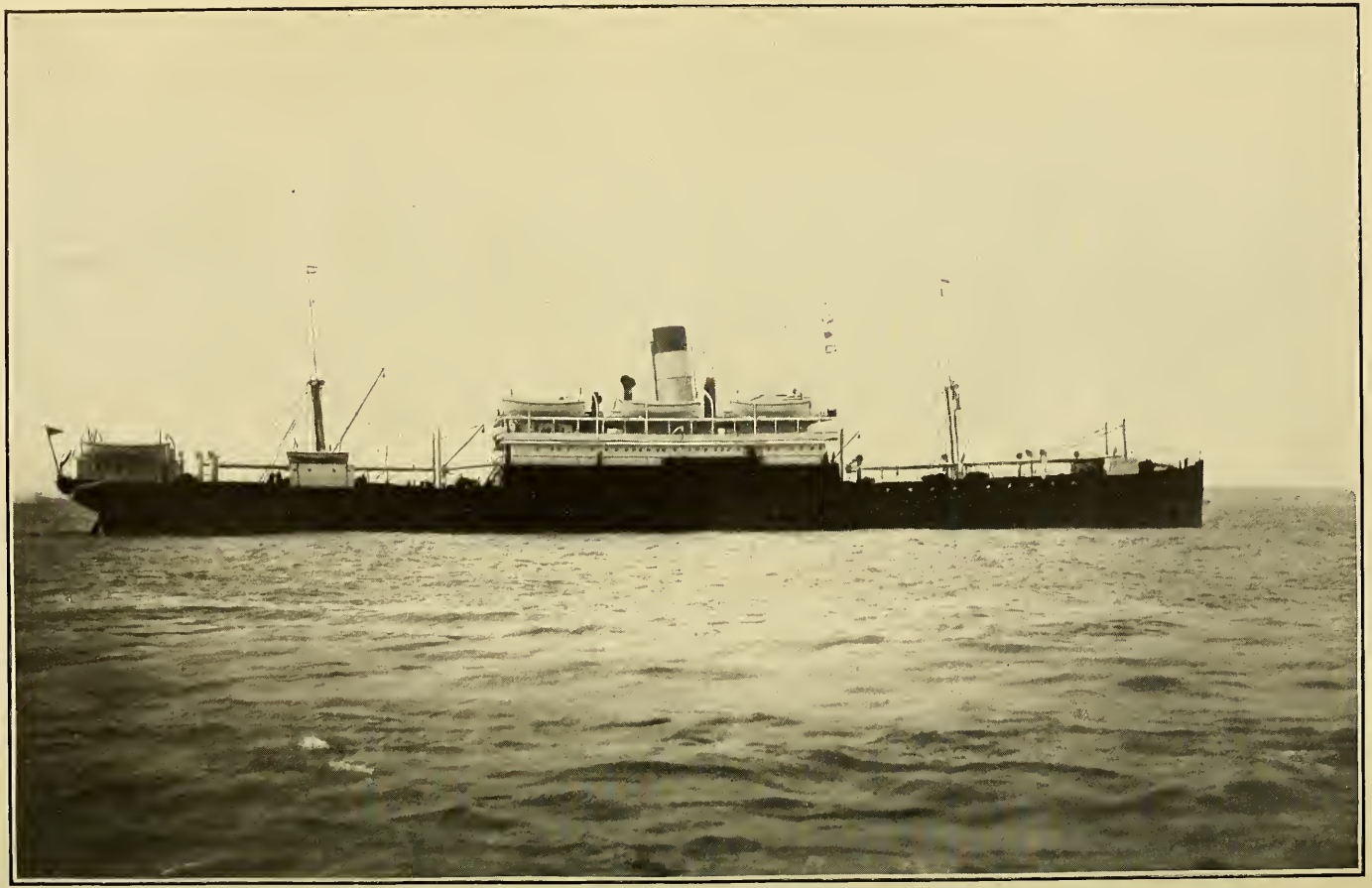
CONTRACTS.

"The delays incident to the actual shipment of commodities ordered through the head office in the United States directly, and not through the medium of responsible agents in the localities concerned, might be removed by a gradual extension of the American contract system, which seems to have but a slight foothold as yet in the countries of South America. This would involve, first of all, the drawing up of a form of agreement between the purchaser and the agent, which the former may sign or not, as he chooses, but which the latter is to sign and transmit to the main office, giving to the purchaser at the same time a copy of the agreement. Then would come what are technically known as 'order contracts,' and finally the contracts proper. By degrees, also, it may readily become possible to block the country out geographically. Under this arrangement each agent would be enabled to enter into contracts directly within the specific area assigned him, final approval only being reserved to the head office in the United States.

CREDIT.

"The requirement of many American business concerns that the goods exported must be paid for in advance or immediately on delivery does not suit South American buyers. They demand credit for lengths of time which in turn are not satisfactory to the American dealer. In cases where the American is willing to grant credit at all, the period allowed rarely, if ever, extends beyond ninety days, instead of six months, which seems to be commonly the period desired. And right here it should be stated emphatically that, if the American exporter, ere he sends his goods forth, would take the trouble to ascertain, through the local banks or other sources of reliable information, the business and financial responsibility of his customers in South America, precisely as he does at home, he would confine his dealings to reputable firms or individuals, and there would be fewer complaints about inability to collect.

"Whenever so desired, either credit in the ordinary sense, or payments on the instalment plan should be granted to responsible parties. In its most liberal form the extension of credit would involve the



STEAMSHIP VERDI OF LAMPORT & HOLT LINE. ONE OF THREE NEW VESSELS OF 9,000 TONS EACH, WITH FIRST-CLASS PASSENGER ACCOMMODATION, WHICH HAS BEEN PLACED ON LINE BETWEEN NEW YORK, RIO, AND BUENOS AIRES.

payment of a certain amount down and of the remaining sum due on the purchase in terms ranging from thirty days to six months, with the usual allowance of discounts from catalogue rates, and with the interest deducted if the principal be paid at the beginning, instead of at the expiration, of the term of days or months.

"The plan, also, of providing for the payment of a small fraction of the purchase price down, and of permitting the purchaser forthwith to enjoy the use of the article bought, subject to the payment of periodical instalments extending over a year or more, while the legal ownership continues in the seller until the last instalment has been met, would be successful, in my opinion, if widely introduced into South America. The few experiments made with it thus far show it to be exceedingly popular."

THE POSSIBILITIES OF SOUTH AMERICAN HISTORY AND POLITICS AS A FIELD FOR RESEARCH.

The following valuable paper was read before the *American Political Science Association* at its annual meeting, Dec. 28, 1907, by Dr. HIRAM BINGHAM of Yale University, and is published by the Bureau as in accordance with its present policy of advancing the mutual literary interests of North and South America.

It is obviously for the best interests of the American people to cultivate a warm friendship with the Southern Republics, not only in the pursuit of commerce, but more particularly for the sake of international comity. Now an international friendship, in order to be permanent, must rest on a basis of intelligent appreciation. And to secure an intelligent appreciation of South America, we need to have in English many more trustworthy books on her history and politics. When the student of history and politics first begins to realize the need for such books he may naturally ask whether it is possible with the available resources to begin the production of scholarly works. Is the field ready for the worker? It is the aim of this paper to answer these questions, and to indicate roughly some of the work that needs to be done, the material there is to do it with, and where it may be undertaken most advantageously. No one realizes better than the writer the many shortcomings that must necessarily appear in attempting to do this. At best this paper can only be a guidepost, a mere indication of a few of the possibilities.

What is presented here is based on a card catalogue of South Americana, on which the writer has been engaged at intervals for some seven years. It is now accessible for use in the Yale Library, and although very far from approaching completion it contains about 25,000 cards and is continually growing. It contains cards for the

South American collections in the Harvard Library, the Library of Congress, the Princeton Library, and the Yale Library, and many cards for books not at present known to be available.[a] It is our hope to make it a subject catalogue for all material relating to Spanish-American history, politics, and geography, and so far as possible it will give the whereabouts of at least one copy of each book.

The most striking fact that results from a study of this catalogue is the scarcity of trustworthy, comprehensive works in English and of scholarly monographs in any language. There are, to be sure, many recent books in Spanish which are satisfactory from the point of view of some Spanish historians. When one realizes, however, that it was possible for an eminent military historian to spend all his life within 20 miles of the greatest battlefield in his country, and never see it except once as he was riding by (a battlefield, I may remark in passing, that offers unusual difficulties to the historical student), one gets some idea of the shortcomings of some of these works.

It is fair to say, without prejudice, that the number of trained scholarly writers on South American history and politics is extremely small. Notwithstanding the great amount of material and the hundreds of books that relate to these subjects, the need for the products of careful research is very great; which seems to indicate that the possibilities of these subjects as a field for research have been inadequately appreciated by American scholars.

One does not always remember that the first Spanish settlements in South America antedated the first English settlements in North America by nearly a hundred years, and that when the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth there were already cities in South America that could boast of a longer history than Chicago can to-day. It may be useful in helping to realize the age of the civilization of Spanish America to turn for a moment to one feature of it, viz., the history of education in South America. When Harvard, our oldest university, was only an idea in the minds of a few English colonists, the University of San Marcos in Peru was a well-established institution already older than Cornell is to-day. When Cornell celebrates her hundredth anniversary, the University of San Marcos, still flourishing, will be getting ready to celebrate her four hundredth. When Yale was founded, this ancient University of Lima was already one hundred and thirty-one years old, or about the same age that Colombia is to-day.

Not only is the history of South America longer than ours and able to offer the advantages of a greater period of study, it also offers a greater variety. In both North and South America there are periods

[a] Cards for books in the John Crerar and the Newberry libraries of Chicago and the Columbus Memorial Library are about to be added.

of discovery, colonization, growth of colonial institutions, development of individual colonies, Indian wars, revolutionary wars against the mother country, growth and development of individual states, civil war, constitutional and legal development, and commercial prosperity and depression. While some of these may not offer quite as much dramatic interest in South America as in North America, still it would be difficult to find anywhere more absorbing subjects for study and research than the lives of the Spanish conquistadores, or the campaigns of the Wars of Emancipation, or the evolution of a practical polity in the XIXth century.

The story of constitutional development offers a very attractive field. The attempt to take political institutions, which we inherited as the natural result of centuries of Teutonic racial development, and to graft these on to institutions with an extremely different ancestry, offers as many different aspects as there are Republics in South America, and must always be full of interest to the student of political science. So far as variety is concerned, it is difficult to compete with the rapid succession of diverse political forms which one finds in the Southern Republics.

Possibly the most attractive feature of South American history and politics as a field for research is the opportunity it presents to work in claims not already staked out or where the richest ore has not already been exhausted. There are innumerable problems yet to be solved, and the various political, administrative, and economic institutions offer a splendid opportunity for original investigation. As a matter of fact, there are so many opportunities for work on subjects that have been scarcely touched by properly trained investigators that one scarcely knows what to mention and what to leave out.

A few years ago it might have been replied with truth that, granting this splendid opportunity, the chance of getting anyone to read, much less to purchase, what one might publish as the fruit of such research was too slight to justify the risk. I believe that that is no longer the case. It is almost trite to speak of Secretary Root's visit to South America. Yet it is astonishing how much more interest the man-in-the-street takes in South American affairs than he did before the Secretary's visit brought South America vividly before his mind. Instances might be multiplied. This is hardly the place, however, to be obliged to demonstrate the increased interest in Latin-American affairs among educated people, for this very conference is, or ought to be, a sufficient answer in itself.[a]

[a] An idea of the amount of material that awaits the specialist may be gathered from these few bibliographies:

Biblioteca Hispano-Americana 1493–1810, by J. T. Medina. Santiago: 1898–1902.

The greatest need at the present moment is for a comprehensive book to cover both the institutional and narrative history of the period between the Conquest and the Wars of Emancipation, roughly a period of 250 years from 1560 to 1810. Before such a comprehensive work can be written, however, a large number of monographs must be undertaken on various features of the period. Of course there are histories of individual countries which are available for filling up parts of the picture, but they leave much to be desired,

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6 vols. (Harvard.) Indispensable in its particular field. Gives a vast amount of information regarding the literature of the colonial period.

Estudios i Catálogo Completo i Razonado de la Biblioteca Americana Coleccionada por el Sr. Gregorio Beéche, by B. Vicuña Mackenna. Valparaiso: 1879. (Yale.)

Catálogo de la Biblioteca de la Universidad de Caracas Formado de Orden del Ilustre Americano, Regenerador y Presidente de los Estados de Venezuela General Guzman Blanco. Caracas: 1875. (Yale.) Contains about 1,000 titles which relate to the political science and history of America.

Catálogo de las obras hispano-americanas existentes en la Biblioteca Nacional de Bogotá, 1897. 1 vol. (Yale.)

There have been compiled for the Pan-American Bureau a few partial bibliographies of some of the South American Republics which contain references not only to books but also to magazine articles and maps.

Catalogue of books, pamphlets, periodicals and maps relating to the Republic of Bolivia in the Columbus Memorial Library. Washington, 1905. (Yale.)

A list of books, magazine articles and maps relating to Paraguay. Books 1638–1903. Maps 1599–1903. Prepared by José Segundo Decoud, Washington, 1904. (Yale.)

A list of books, magazine articles and maps relating to Chile, prepared by P. Lee Phillips, Washington, 1903. (Yale.)

A list of books, magazine articles, and maps relating to Brazil, prepared by P. Lee Phillips, Washington, 1901. (Yale.)

Of those that relate to special parts of the continent there are quite a number:

Anuario bibliográfico de la República Argentina (Críticas noticias, Catálogo) . . . Director A. Navarro Viola, 1879–87. Buenos Aires, 1880–88. (Newberry.)

Biblioteca Boliviana. Catálogo de la sección de libros i folletos (por G. Rene-Moreno). Santiago de Chile: 1879.

Catálogo de la Biblioteca Chileno-Americana de Don Ramon Briseno, ex-director de la Biblioteca nacional de Santiago. Santiago de Chile: 1889.

Catalogue des livres imprimés et manuscrits composant la bibliothèque de M. A. Chaumette Des Fossés, ex-consul général de la France au Pérou. Paris: 1842. 2,079 titles, chiefly Peruviana.

Biblioteca Peruana. Apuntes para un Catálogo de Impresos. I. *Libros y Folletos Peruanos de la Biblioteca del Instituto Nacional.* II. *Libros y Folletos Peruanos de la Biblioteca Nacional y Notas Bibliográficas.* Santiago: 1896. (Yale.) An excellent bibliographical aid.

Anuario de la Prensa Chilena publicado por la Biblioteca Nacional. Santiago de Chile: 1891–. In progress. (Newberry Lib.) An excellent work. Gives not only books printed in Chile but also those by Chilean authors and those about Chile printed abroad.

Annaes da Imprensa Nacional do Rio de Janeiro de 1808–1822, by Alfredo do Valle Cabrol. Rio de Janeiro: 1881. (Newberry Lib.) Important.

Annaes da Bibliotheca Nacional . . . publicados sob a direcção do . . . B. F. Ramiz Galvão. Rio de Janeiro: 1876, etc. In progress. (Harvard.)

Catalogo da Exposição Permanente dos Cimelios da Bibliotheca Nacional Publicado sob a direcção do Bibliothecario João de Saldanha da Gama. Rio de Janeiro: 1885. (Yale.)

and in many cases the most that one gets is a wearisome amount of undigested detail.

For meeting this need the largest amount of manuscript source material is in Spain. Professor SHEPHERD's recently published "*Guide to the Materials for the History of the United States in Spanish Archives*" [a] gives an excellent idea of the nature of these archives and their richness for part of North America. It goes without saying that they contain far more that is concerned with South America than with the United States.

There is also a large amount in London, Paris,[b] and in some of the South American cities, particularly Rio de Janeiro.[c]

And there are in this country quite a number of manuscripts relating to the colonial period.

The New York Public Library has the largest collection and it has been partly catalogued.[d]

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[a] *Guide to the Materials for the History of the United States in Spanish Archives* (*Simancas, the Archivo Historico Nacional, and Seville*), by William R. Shepherd. Washington: 1907. Mention is made of sources bearing on our early relations with South America on pp. 23, 46–51, 70–71.

[b] The *Catálogo Razonado de los Manuscritos Españoles Existentes en la Biblioteca Real de Paris Seguido de un Suplemento que Contiene los de las Otras Tres Bibliotecas Publicas* (*del Arsenal, de Santa Genoveva y Mazarina*) por Eugenio de Ochoa, Paris: 1844 (Yale) mentions a few manuscripts in Paris that relate to Spanish America. Vid., pp. 76, 81, 84, 86, 139, 147, 188, 633, 639, 640.

See also *Bibliothèque Nationale, Département des Manuscrits, Catalogue des Manuscrits Espagnols et des Manuscrits Portugais* par M. Alfred Morel-Fatio. Paris: 1892. (Yale.)

[c] *Annaes da Bibliotheca Nacional do Rio de Janeiro, Publicados sob a Direcção do Bibliothecario Dr. F. L. Bittencourt Sampaio.* vols. IV, V, X, XX. Rio de Janeiro: 1878–1892. Contain a *Catalogo dos Manuscriptos da Biblioteca Nacional, Parte Primeira, Manuscriptos Relativos do Brazil.* (Harvard.) The collection is very comprehensive. Its nucleus dates from the hegira of the king of Portugal to Brazil in 1807, and the papers he brought with him. In the printed calendar, evidently still incomplete, there are about 8,000 documents covering the seventy-five years, from 1650 to 1725.

For MSS. in Santiago, Chile, see *Catalogo de los manuscritos relativos a los antiguos Jesuítas de Chile que se custodian en la Biblioteca nacional.* Santiago de Chile: 1891.

[d] The Rich collection in the Lenox Branch contains a veritable treasure-house of manuscript source material. There are 142 volumes of manuscripts relating to Spanish America. They comprise much that was collected by Muñoz for his *Historia del Nuevo Mundo*, and was obtained by OBADIAH RICH from M. TERNAUX COMPANS, together with many other manuscripts on Spanish America that the latter had collected. Notice of the important single volumes and the particular groups of papers will be found in the *Bulletin of the New York Public Library* for July, 1901. A large part are transcripts, but there are many originals. There are, besides the RICH collection, more than 40 other volumes and groups of papers relating to Spanish America.

According to the printed list, 63 volumes and groups of papers relate specifically to South America.

Among those not in the printed list are:

Relacion de todo lo que sucedio en la jornada de Amagua y Dorado, que fué á descubrir el

The Library of Congress has a goodly number which partly supplement the Lenox collection.[a]

Gobernador Pedro de Ursua con poderes . . . etc., by Francisco Vazquez. Transcript from a volume of papers in the library of the Cathedral of Seville, 1784.

Relacion instructiva del origen y conclusion del Tratado de Limites. Serie de todos los incidentes que occurieron y que dificulteron su execucion . . . (including letters by Ricardo Wall, dated 1760. Transcript (?) 18th century. 41 ll.

Descripcion y estado del virreinato de Santa Fee, Nuevo Reino de Granada, y relacion del govierno y mando de D. Pedro Mesia de la Cerda Marques de la Vega de Arunjo 1772, by Francisco Antonio Moreno y Escaudon. Transcript (?). 107 ll. Two copies, in good condition; rather blind hand; second copy more legible.

Relacion hecha a Su Magd. del descubrimiento y conquista del Nuevo Reyno de Granada que hizo el Licenciado Gonzalo Ximenez . . . desde el 6 de Apr de 1536, by Juan de San Martin and Antonio de Labrija. 14 ll. Transcript (18th century). Fine, clear MS.

Relacion que escribio Fr. Gaspar de Carvajal del suceso del nuevo descubrimiento del formoso rio grande (Amazon) que descubrio por mui gran ventura el capitan Francisco de Orellano. (1542 cir.) Transcript (1780). 51 ll.

Extracto sucinto de los asuntos . . . exped . . . de la colonia del Sacramento (R. d. P.) 18th century. 67 ll.

Papers relating to the exploration of Venezuela, etc. 1528–1549. In Spanish. Transcripts from the archives of Simancas and Seville. 39 ll. fol.

[a]Among them are—

Decrees and regulations issued by the Spanish Government. Petitions, 18th century. (About 92 pieces.)

Spanish copies of original documents of accounts of voyages, etc., of 16th and 17th centuries (9 pieces).

Copies of papers relating to the history of Spanish colonies in South America, including royal letters to Gonzalo Fernandez de Oviedo, with papers concerning the Asiento and administration of royal estates in Chili (about 25 pieces).

Copies of letters relating to exploration and settlement of Mexico and South America, with instructions concerning Balboa, Cortez, letters from Mexican bishops, and descriptions of routes to the Philippines (10 pieces).

Relacion diario del viage que se ha echo a las costas de el estrecho de Magellanes en el rcced de enemigos de Europa, by Antonio de Veâ. 1676. 1 vol. 4°.

Relacion Historica geografica del nuevo partido de Caupolican y Mission de Apolobamba. 1809. 1 vol. fol.

Documentos conḡ se ynstruye la Segunda cuenta de Receptoria ḡral, de Real fisco dada p̃ Dn. Jph. Franco. de Morales comprehensiva desde primero de Enero de 1760 hasta 31 de Agosto de 1764. 1 vol. fol.

Historia ó Naracion de las cosas succedidas en este colleges del cuzco cabeza destos Reynos, del Peru desde su fundacion hasta oy Primero de Noviembre dia de todos sanctos Ano de 1600, by Antonio de Vega. 1600. 1 vol. fol.

Coleccion de notas extractos Ytenerarios, derroteros y papeles sacados la mayor parte de la Guia Polition, ecleseastica y milita del Virreynato del Peru. By Joseph Hipolito. n. d. Collected by David Barry.

Minerales del Peru. Tractado sobre el modo de laborear la Mina en el Peru y la utilidad que servirà à la Rl. Hazda. su extablecimiento, ano de 1784. (Contains also: *El cero de*

The Harvard Library has a few that relate to this period.[a]

In the TICKNOR collection in the Boston Public Library there is a miscellaneous collection of manuscripts, relating mostly to the politics, finance, and commerce of Chile and Peru, 1737–98. Of the 45 manuscripts, 33 relate to the colonial history of Chile and 12 to that of Peru.[b]

Yale has a few for this period.[c]

Gualgayoc con Ricas Pobres vetas de Plata descuvierto en la Provincia de Caxamarca, with several MS. maps.) 1784. 1 vol. 4°.

Rapports van Brazil. 1636–44. (Relating mainly to the Dutch trade.) 1 vol. fol.

Resolution Raeckende Brazil beginuen̄met den Yaere 1649 eijndingen̄ mettnen̄ jare daeraen vosgende. 1649. 1 vol. fol.

Miscellaneous Dutch manuscripts relating to the West Indies Company, Portugal, Brazil, etc. 1649–55?

[a] *Relacion de la celebre, quanto festivaba talla de los Borbones, que dispuso, y executò el governador de la ciudad de Caracas D. Joseph Solano en las cercanias de dicha ciudad, etc.* [1766.] A neatly written MS. of 18 pages.

Informação sobre as minas de S. Paulo a dos certoens da sua capitania desde o anno de 1597 até o prezente de 1772 com relacão chronologica dos administradores dellas regimenos, e jurisdicção, a elles conferida, á qual ficou rezidndo nos governadores, e capitaens generaes da mesma capitania.

The catalogue attributes this to P. S. de Almeida Baes Leme. It is a memorial (?) of 252 pages.

[b] *Catalogue of the Spanish Library and of the Portuguese Books Bequeathed by George Ticknor to the Boston Public Library together with the Collection of Spanish and Portuguese Literature in the General Library* by James Lyman Whitney. Boston: 1879. (Yale.)

[c] *Libro de Cedulas, Autos acordados, y otros Instrumtos pertenecientes á los Indios, Anos de 1760–1769.* Two folio volumes of about 200 and 225 ll. respectively. In good condition. These documents relate to the civil and religious affairs of Spanish America, mainly Peru, in the 18th century. There is a brief table of contents at the end.

Nuevo Gazofilacio real de el Peru. Ano de 1774. A folio volume containing 130 ll. In good condition, written in a clear hand.

Relación que hace el Exmo. Señor Don Theodoro de Croix, Virrey que fue de estos Rnos. del Peru y Chile a su sucesor . . . desde 4. de Abril de 1784 hasta 25. de Marzo de 1790, by F. de Croix. A folio volume of about 300 ll., including large folding tables. In good condition.

Memorias antiguas historiales del Peru, seguidas de los Anales del mismo Reyno, by F. Montesinos. A folio volume of 589 pp. In good condition. Written in a clear hand.

Relación del gobierno del Peru . . . hecha a su sucesor en el mando, en Novre de 1689, by M. de Navarra y Rocaful, duque de la Palata. A folio of 269 ll. In good condition. Written in a clear Spanish hand. There is a brief table of contents at the end.

Grandezas de Indias. Estado eclesiástico, político y civil de ellas, escrito por Don Gabriel de Villalobos, caballero del hábito de Santiago, Almirante de Flotas, Marques de Varinas. A folio volume of about 250 ll., written in a clear hand. This copy was made by a Cuban in 1847, from the manuscript in the National Library of Madrid, which contains 568 pages. It contains a table of contents at the end.

Monarquia del diablo, En la Gentilidad del Nuevo Mundo Americano derribada y destruida por la Cats. Monras de España: Triumfos de la Religion en los Dominios conquistados conla fe, valor, armas de los Españolas: con Reflexiones para confundir a los

For the XIXth century the number of South American manuscripts in London, both at the British Museum and the Public Record Office, is much greater than one would suppose. At the Record Office, for instance, there are hundreds of volumes of manuscripts relating to South American history. The conditions of work there are so pleasant that when one adds the advantages of the printed books in the British Museum to the number of manuscripts, it makes London appeal very strongly to the student of South American affairs.

In South America itself conditions vary greatly. In Buenos Aires, Rio de Janeiro, and Santiago de Chile one will find well-equipped libraries and abundant material. In most of the other places where one might expect a large body of material, the fortunes of war and the depredations of insects and other destructive agencies have done what they could to lessen the opportunities. Furthermore much has been printed.

In Caracas there is a large collection of manuscripts relating to Bolivar kept very carefully in the National Museum, where they are opened once a year in the presence of certain dignitaries. It is said that they have all been printed in the well-known collections of documents relating to the wars of independence, which may be consulted at several of our large libraries.[a]

Apart from this there appears to be little manuscript material in Caracas, and the National Library is not quite as well equipped for

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Anti-Catolicos mordaces emula de la Nación Española benemerita de todas las Naciónes del Orbe en Conquista tan gloriosa. Historia interesante á la Religion, y Monarquia. Compuesta por Dⁿ Antonio Julian Presbitero, ex-Jesuita. A small quarto volume containing 274 pp. In good condition.

Estado del Perv, piedad de Sv Exelencia defensa de principe, lealtad de la America al real trono de Espana. Defensa del honor y zelo caritativo del Ilmo Sr. Dr. Dn Juan Manuel de Moscoso y Peralta digmo obispo del Cusco, by Jose R. Sauaraura Tito Atauchi. Cusco: 1784. 86 pp. folio. Very interesting and curious, with numerous annotations.

In Diciembre de 1772, Licencia y Pasaporte para embarcarse como soltero y con motivo justo para el Reyno de Nueva España Dⁿ Juan Antonio Martinez Valdés Fé de Bautismo y Testimonio en forma autentica de la legitimidad, notoria Hidalguia, y nobleza del mismo Dⁿ Juan Antonio, que nació el dia 10 de octubre de 1758, en la Villa de Gixón, Obispado, de Oviedo, del Principado de Asturias. An original license to go to America, with illuminated coats of arms on vellum. folio. 12 ll.

Nuevo Systema de Gobiérno Economico para la America: Con los males, y daños que le causa el que hoy tiene, de los que participa copiosamente España. Y remedios universales para que la primera tenga considerables ventalas, y la segunda mayores intereses. A small quarto in two parts of 110 and 116 ll. respectively. In good condition.

[a] *Memorias del general O'Leary publicadas por su hijo, S. B. O'Leary, por orden del gobierno de Venezuela . . .* Caracas, 1879–82. 31 vols. (Yale.)

Documentos para la historia de la vida pública del libertador de Colombia, Perú y Bolivia . . . Puestos por orden cronológico, y con adiciones y notas que la ilustran, por el general José Félix Blanco . . . Caracas, 1875–78. 14 vols. (Yale.)

the study of Venezuelan history and politics as is the Library of Yale University; for, although it contains more Government documents, it does not contain so many valuable secondary works nor so many early periodicals. There is, in fact, quite a little material relating to Venezuela, both manuscript and printed, at Yale, that is not available, so far as I know, in Venezuela.

In Colombia there is considerable interest in historical work, and the National Academy of History at Bogota has published some excellent volumes.[a]

There are also in Bogota a large number of valuable manuscripts, including the papers of General SANTANDER, which are accessible nowhere else.

The largest collection in Argentina is probably in Buenos Aires at the National Library, where the valuable manuscripts collected by the late historian, General MITRE, and which he used in his well-known works [b] on Belgrano and San Martin, are deposited.

Fortunately, however, one is not obliged to go abroad to indulge in South American research. The most advantageous place in this country is the city of Washington. In the State Department diplomatic and consular archives, there are 786 bound volumes of dispatches from South America, 459 volumes of dispatches sent by diplomatic agents, and 327 sent by consular agents. Among the earlier volumes are many valuable historical documents. Nearly all relate to the XIXth century.[c]

In the Naval War Records Office there are in the collections relating to the Brazil Squadron and the Pacific and South Pacific Squadrons over 50 volumes of letters, many of which relate to political

[a] Such as: *Vida de Herrán. Biografía, escrita por Eduardo Posada y Pedro M. Ibañez y premiada en la concurso del centenario.* Bogotá: 1903.

El Precursor. Documentos sobre la vida pública y privada del General Antonio Nariño. Bogotá: 1903.

[b] *Estudios históricos sobre la revolución argentina: Belgrano y Güemes*, par Bartolomé Mitre. Buenos Aires, 1864. (Yale.)

Historia de San Martín y de la emancipación sud-americana, por Bartolomé Mitre . . . 2. ed. cor . . . Buenos-Aires, 1890. 4 vols. (Yale.)

Historia de Belgrano y de la independencia argentina, por Bartolomé Mitre. 4. y definitiva ed., corr. y aum. Buenos-Aires, 1887. 3 vols. (Yale.)

[c] Reference to the diplomatic archives and to some of the special material will be found in Van Tyne and Leland's *Report on the Government Archives*, particularly in the new edition, which has already gone to the printers.

The South American dispatches are divided as follows: Argentina, 69 volumes, beginning October 1, 1807; Bolivia, 20 volumes, beginning June 9, 1848; Brazil, 150 volumes, beginning March 12, 1817; Chile, 75 volumes, beginning June 30, 1818; Colombia, 133 volumes, beginning August 19, 1822; Ecuador, 30 volumes, beginning February 16, 1826; Paraguay (and Uruguay), 50 volumes, beginning March 19, 1821; Peru, 90 volumes, beginning May 1, 1823; Venezuela, 111 volumes, beginning July 10, 1810; British Guiana, 21 volumes, beginning October 10, 1827; Dutch Guiana, 7 volumes, beginning April 7, 1799.

affairs in South America and the relations of the United States with Spanish America. Many of the letters from and to officers of ships of war concern political refugees and the constitutional development of South America.

For the Wars of Emancipation, that fascinating first quarter of the XIXth century in which San Martin, Bolivar, Santander, Belgrano, O'Higgins and Sucre flourished, there is no satisfactory comprehensive book. There are good chapters in various recent English books that might be mentioned, and there are, to be sure, various longer works about which something might be said, but there is no good comprehensive book written from a scholarly point of view, and the need for such a book in English is painfully apparent. There is a splendid opportunity in this period for work to be done on readable biographies of these interesting characters. There is no end of material, there is considerable dramatic interest in their lives, and there are many manuscript sources available.

The Yale Library possesses an excellent collection of manuscripts relating to this period. It consists for the most part of some 3,100 original letters and about 200 transcripts, not only official but also personal correspondence. Some idea of its extent may be gathered from the following brief description. There are:

(1) *The Sucre Papers*, which consist of over 2,200 letters written mostly to Gen. A. J. Sucre, in the years 1821–1829. By far the larger part of these letters were written during the course of his campaigns in southern Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia.[a]

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[a] Among the more important sections of the Sucre Papers may be mentioned:

35 letters of José d'Espinar, of which 23 are to Sucre, 2 to Ignacio Alcazar (?) S^{or} Prefecto del Dep^{tos} de Huaylas, and 4 to S^{or} Intend^{te} de Guayaquil. (Pativilca, Trujillo, etc., Dec. 5, 1821–Aug. 15, 1829.)

31 letters of Greg^{o} Ferdnanez, of which 30 are to Sucre and one to José Albarino. (Caxamarca, Potosi, Paz, and Paz de Ayacucho, Jan. 2, 1824–Apr. 30, 1828.)

18 letters of Gregorio Funes to Sucre. (Buenos Aires, Aug. 18, 1825–Nov. 27, 1829.)

35 letters of L. Galindo, of which 34 are to Sucre and one to Luis Urdaneta. (Pachas, Potosi, Aguamiro, etc., Jan. 6, 1824–Feb. 19, 1829.)

38 letters and 1 statistical table of Tomás de Heres, of which 25 letters are to Sucre and two to José Cardenas. (Lima, Cuenca, Guayaquil, etc., Aug. 23, 1821–Sept. 16, 1829.)

21 letters of D. Ibarra, of which 7 are to Sucre. (Guayaquil, Oña, etc., Nov. 8, 1821–Mar. 29, 1824 (?).

65 letters of Juan Illingrot, of which 44 (?) are to Sucre, and two to Morales. (Guayaquil, San Borondon, Babahoyo, etc., Apr. 15, 1821–Mar. 19, 1829.)

42 letters of Jacinto Lara to Sucre. (Cajabamba, Arequipa, etc., Dec. 9th, 1823–Oct. 27, 1826.)

30 letters of José de la Mar, of which 29 are to Sucre. (Guayaquil, etc., Jan. 11, 1822–June 17, 1829 (?).)

29 letters of William Miller to Sucre. (Caraveli, Potosi, etc., Aug. 13, 1823–Aug. 17, 1826.)

35 letters of A. Morales, of which 18 are to Sucre. (Guayaquil, Sanborondon, Machala etc., May 1, 1821–Oct. 30, 1824.)

Very few of them have ever been printed, and they present an excellent opportunity for writing an intelligent life of this great general and his campaigns.

(2) *The Henry Hill letters.* This collection consists of about 1,100 letters to and from HENRY HILL, a young Connecticut Yankee, who went out to Chile with a consignment of arms and ammunition from Baltimore, in the early days of the South American Wars of Emancipation, and later became our first consul to Valparaiso. HENRY HILL left New York about the middle of December, 1816, going to Baltimore, whence he embarked as supercargo on the brig *Savage* January 5, 1817, with a cargo of warlike stores, bound for South America. Finding it impossible to sell these in Buenos Aires, the ship sailed through the Straits of Magellan and reached Chile in May, where, before long, HILL got in touch with SAN MARTIN and finally disposed of his cargo. He lived in Valparaiso from 1817 to 1821, leaving there in March, 1821, and going to New York by way of Argentina and Brazil.[a]

There are 929 letters from ESTANISLAO LYNCH to HENRY HILL, written mostly in a clear Spanish hand; 840 from Santiago, covering the period from July 8, 1817, to September 9, 1821, and Feb-

(Footnote—Continued.)

19 letters of Daniel Florencio O'Leary, of which 15 are to Sucre. (Bogotá, Guayaquil, etc., Feb. 8, 1822–July 29, 1829.)

41 letters of José de Olmedo, of which 28 are to Sucre and two to Bart^{me} Salgado. (Guayaquil, May 5, 1821–Mar. 7, 1822.)

21 letters of J^{ph} Ant^{o} Ponton, of which 18 are to Sucre and two to Morales. (Alausi, San Pablo, etc., Sept. 20, 1821–Apr. 4, 1822.)

22 letters of Bartolome Salom, of which 21 are to Sucre. (Pasto, Bella Vista, etc., Aug. 31, 1820–Dec. 19, 1828.)

35 letters of Andres Sc^{ta}ruz, of which 32 are to Sucre. (Piura, Paz, Plata, etc., Dec. 22, 1821–Feb. 26, 1827.)

19 letters of Francisco de Paula Santander, of which 12 are to Sucre. (Bogota, etc., Jan. 3. 1820–Jan. 20 1829.)

47 letters of Luis Urdaneta, of which 39 are to Sucre. (Cañas, Huaras, Loxa, etc., Jan. 17, 1821–June 11, 1829(?).

10 letters of Wm. White, of which eight are to Sucre. (Puerto de Espana, Caracas, etc., Sept. 4, 1818–Mar. 26, 1830.)

[a] He is addressed during 1822 care of Palmer and Hamilton, New York, and lived occasionally in New York, New Haven, Saybrook, and Catskill. In 1823 he seems to have gone to Boston, where he lived until 1829, the end of the correspondence. Yale also has his letter book for the years 1811–1816.

There are among the letters two interesting bills of lading for Spanish and Peruvian milled dollars, shipped from Peru to Baltimore.

In the letters written by Henry Hill there are 171 letters written from South America during 1817 and 1818. Most of these were written from Valparaiso or Santiago de Chile from June, 1817, to December 31, 1818, and many of them are to Estanislao Lynch. Nearly all are in English. There are practically no originals. A few of the copies were made by a patent copying press and are very much faded, but most of them are autograph transcripts.

ruary 26, 1824, to January 4, 1825, and 83 letters from Lima, October 8, 1821–June 16, 1829. The letters are of great value for a history of the Wars of Emancipation in Chile and Peru. They will also be of use in estimating the amount of assistance which the South American patriots received from this country, and in throwing new light on the character of SAN MARTIN. None of these letters has ever been printed, so far as I know.

(3) *The Bolivar Papers*, a collection of about 100 MS. letters, papers, and documents relating to BOLIVAR and his friends, including *Hoja de servicios del coronel Felipe Esteves*, a folio volume of much interest.

(4) *Lettres américaines sur les révolutions du Nouveau Monde, ou correspondance de plusieurs français résidant au Mexique, au Pérou, à Buenos-Ayres et autres lieux . . . suivis de l'honneur français . . .* [etc.], par. P. Colau. 1819. 124 pp.[a]

(5) *Batallas de Vargas i Boyaca 25 de julio de 1819–7 de agosto de 1819*, by Elias Prieto Villate. 1893. 49 pp. fol. With a map of the Battle of Pantano de Vargas. An interesting manuscript by a local antiquary. The result of a lifetime of patient research.

In the earlier volumes of the consular archives in the State Department are many valuable documents relating to this period, including a large number of letters from HENRY HILL, and there are besides several reports from special agents who were sent out to investigate the actual conditions of the incipient republics.[b]

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[a] Of interest in this connection are the following MSS. in the Library of Congress:

A general history of South American Independence, with a few finance and military tables. (In French.) Also: *Relation au détail de mes opérations militaires sur la Province de Guatémala et des motifs qui les ont déterminees par Luis Aury.* 1820. 1 vol. 4°.

Privezac (French Secret Agent): *Rapport sur l'état et la situation exacte des Colonies espagnoles de l'Amérique a la fin de 1817; Rapport sur le situation de l'Amérique au commencement de 1818; Rapport sur la situation de l'Amérique; Rapport sur la situation de l'Amérique Espagnole; Rapport sur la situation Politique de l'Amérique Espagnole.* 1818. 1 vol. fol. Includes all of the important countries of South America.

[b] Such are (1) the letters of W. G. D. Worthington, special U. S. agent to Buenos Aires, Chile and Peru, 1817–1820. (Van Tyne and Leland's "Guide to the Government Archives," new edition), and also (2) "Report made Sept. 25, 1819" by Baptis Irvine (special agent of the U. S. Government to Venezuela), Jan. 30, 1818. 230 fol. pp. An interesting sketch of Venezuelan history up to 1819.

(3) *Orinoco River exploration 1819.* MSS. Journal of U. S. S. "Nonesuch" to Angostura in 1819.

(4) *Letters* May 1–June, 1823, by J. B. Prevost, in "Lima," vol. I; (5) *Prevost, J. B. Account of his death and correspondence relating thereto*, in "Lima," vol. I.

(6) *Letters to the Secretary of State*, Apr. 1, 1824–June 19, 1827, by Wm. Tudor. "Lima," vol. I. Very full and interesting, especially as they are strongly pro Spanish. Wm. Tudor was with the Spaniards at Callao and got the Spanish aspect of the war and of Bolivar. "Lima," vol. I. *W. Tudor to Secretary of State*, May 3, 1824. *From on board U. S. S. Franklin at Callao.* A long letter describing situation of Bolivar at

The Spanish Americans have appreciated the value of printing the sources for their history, and one finds an unexpected abundance of this kind of material. In countries where tropical insects and dampness allow few books and papers to reach a ripe old age, it is extremely fortunate that so many of the documents have been printed. Furthermore the Republics all print annually, as a rule, the official reports of the various Ministries and Government Departments. These *Folletos Oficiales* constitute the main body of printed sources for the history and politics of the XIXth century.[a] There are many other well-known publications that might be mentioned, such as: The Memoirs of the Viceroys of Peru, 6 volumes;[b] Calvo's great collection of Latin-American treaties, 16 volumes;[c] Pedro de Angelis's collection of documents, 6 volumes;[d] the documents relating to Bolivar, the liberator, 14 volumes; the O'Leary memoirs, 33 volumes; the collections of *documentos inéditos*, 55

Canteras, says: "The Colombians are excessively disturbed by the Peruvians and their chief is especially an object of hatred and dread."

(7) *Letter to John Quincy Adams*, Columbiana, Brazil, May, 1821, by Henry Hill. "*The particulars of the Revolution* at Bahia, etc." 4to. 106 pp. "Rio," vol. I.

(8) "*A short sketch (27 pp. fol.) of occurrences in Buenos Ayres within the last year* (1820)" by J. M. Forbes. "Buenos Ayres," vol. I.

[a] Take Venezuela for an example. As soon as she was independent of the neighboring State of Colombia, Venezuela began publishing the *Folletos Oficiales* in 1830. For thirty years these consisted of four pamphlets annually, reports of the ministers of Foreign Affairs, Interior, Treasury and War and Navy. In the early eighties the number of departments was increased to thirteen. In 1862, 1864, 1871, 1872, 1879, and 1900 and 1901 the state of the country did not warrant the publication of the official documents. Most of the reports since 1865 are in the Yale Library.

An even more important source for the study of Venezuelan jurisprudence are the files of government newspapers. From 1808 to 1820 was published the *Gaceta de Caracas;* from 1821 to 1826 it was known as the *Gaceta de Colombia;* from 1827 to 1857, as the *Gaceta de Gobierno;* from 1858 to 1861 as the *Gaceta Oficial;* then for two years as the *Registro Oficial;* from 1863 to 1867, as the *Recopilación Oficial;* from 1868 to 1871, as the *Gaceta Federal;* from 1872 to the present day as the *Gaceta Oficial.* The Yale Library has 25 volumes of the last-named periodical.

[b] *Memorias de los vireyes que han gobernado el Perú, durante el tiempo del coloniaje español. Impresa de órden suprema.* Lima: 1859. 6 vols. (Yale.)

[c] *Recueil complet des traités, conventions, etc., et autres actes diplomatiques de tous les États de l'Amérique Latine compris entre le golfe du Mexique et le cap de Horn, depuis 1493 jusqu'à nos jours,* by C. Calvo. Paris, 1862-69. 16 vols. (Yale.)

In vol. x, pp. 256–383, is a *Repertorio de manuscritos inéditos*, which gives reference to MSS. in the British Museum, Biblioteca Imperial of Paris, Archives of the Indies in Seville, and the Library of the Royal Academy of History of Madrid.

[d] *Colección de obras y documentos relativos á la historia antigua y moderna de las provincias del Río de la Plata. Ilustrados con notas y disertaciones,* by Pedro de Angelis. Buenos Aires, 1836–37. 6 vols. (Yale.)

volumes;[a] the documents relating to Chile, 63 volumes,[b] and the documents relating to Venezuela, 12 volumes.[c]

In these eight sets alone are 205 volumes of sources awaiting the specialist.[d] All of these sets are in the Yale Library, and most of them are also in the Harvard Library.

For general history and politics, in addition to the material already mentioned, there are many publications and periodicals[e] which are

[a] *Colección de documentos inéditos, relativos al descubrimiento, conquista y organización de las antiguas posesiones españolas de América y Oceanía, sacados de los archivos del reino, y muy especialmente del de Indias.* Madrid, 1864–84. 42 vols. (Yale.), and *Colección de documentos inéditos relativos al descubrimiento, conquista y organización de las antiguas posesiones españolas de Ultramar (segunda serie), publicada por la Real Academia de la Historia.* Madrid, 1885–1898. 13 vols. (Yale.)

[b] *Colección de documentos inéditos para la historia de Chile desde el viaje de Magallanes hasta la batalla de Maipo, 1518–1818. Colectados y publicados por J. T. Medina.* vols. 1–30. Santiago, 1888–1902. (Harvard), and the *Colección de historiadores de Chile y documentos relativos á la historia nacional, publicados con notas, etc., por D. B. Arana y J. T. Medina.* vols. I–XXXIII. Santiago, 1861–1900. (Yale.)

[c] *Documentos para los anales de Venezuela desde el movimiento separatista de la Unión colombiana hasta nuestros días. 1º período.* Caracas, 1889–91. 7 vols.

Same. *2º período.* Caracas, 1891–92. 5 vols. (Yale.)

[d] Other important sets that might be mentioned are:

Mercurio Peruano, de historia, literatura y noticias públicas que da á luz la Sociedad Académica de Amantes de Lima; y en su nombre J. Calero y Moreira. Lima, 1791–95. 12 vols. (Harvard.)

Colección de documentos literarios del Perú. Colectados y arreglados por M. Odriozola. Tomo I–XI. Lima, 1863–1878.

Documentos para la historia de Cartagena. Cartagena, 1887. 7 vols. (Yale.)

Collecção de Noticias para a Historia e Geographia das Nações Ultramarinas, que vivem nos dominios Portuguezes, ou lhes são visinhas: Publicada pela Academia Real das Sciencias. Lisboa: 1812–56. 7 vols. (Harvard.)

Collecção das Leis do Imperio do Brasil, de 1860 a 1878 inclus. 27 vols. *Collecção das decisões do Governo do Imperio do Brazil, de 1860 a 1878 inclus.* 19 vols. Rio de Janeiro: 1860, etc.

Documentos para a historia da conquista e colonisacao da costa de leste-oeste do Brazil. Rio de Janeiro: 1905. (L. C.)

Guerra del Pacifico. Recopilacion completa de todos los documentos oficiales, correspondencias i demas publicaciones referentes a la guerra que ha dado a luz la prensa de Chile, Peru i Bolivia, conteniendo documentos ineditos de importancia. Ahumada Morento. Valparaiso: 1887–91. 8 tom. (Yale.)

Recopilacion de los Leyes y Decretos de Venezuela. 1874, etc. 28 vols. (Yale.)

Diario de las discusiones y actas de las Cortes. Cadiz: 1811–1813. 23 vols.

Coleccion de los decretos y ordenes que han expedido las Cortes generales y extraordinarias. Cadiz: 1811–1813. 4 vols.

[e] *Revista sud-americana.* Rio de Janeiro. Monthly. (Harvard.)

The South American Journal and Brazil and River Plate Mail. London. Now in its 44th year. (A few volumes in Yale.) It is chiefly financial.

Revue Sud-Américaine, publication bi-mensuelle politique, economique, financière et commerciale des pays latins de l'Amerique. Paris: 1882, etc. (Yale.)

Revista Critica de Historia y Litteratura Españolas, Portuguses e Hispano-Americanos Publicade bajo la dirccion de Rafael Altamira y Antonio Elias de Monlius. Contains monthly or bimonthly list of books published in Spain and South America of a literary, critical, or historical nature.

Revista de Archivos y Bibliotecas Nacionales—Epoca colonial—Guerra de Independencia. . . Lima: 1899–1900. 5 vols. (Yale.)

likely sources of good material, and it is possible to follow the course of current legislation through the files of the official journals.[a]

Several of the more important universities issue annual publications of varying importance.[b]

One is more likely to find contributions to the theory of political science than historical monographs, although the latter are not infrequent. Some of the publications are devoted almost exclusively to history and political science. Such, for instance, is the *Revista de Buenos Ayres*. One scarcely realizes how much can be found in these long sets until one has had occasion to use them.

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[a] *Boletín Oficial de la República Argentina.* Daily.

Diario Oficial. Rio de Janeiro. Daily.

Diario Oficial de la República de Chile. Santiago. Daily.

El Estado. La Paz. Daily. (*Diario Oficial.*)

Diario Oficial. Bogotá. Daily.

Registro Oficial de la República del Ecuador. Quito. Daily.

Diario Oficial. Asunción. Daily.

El Peruano. (*Diario Oficial.*) Lima. Monthly.

Gaceta Oficial. Caracas. Daily.

Files of these, more or less complete, are in the Columbus Memorial Library.

[b] *Anales universitarios del Perú . . .* Lima, 1879–92.

Continued under the title: *Anales de la Universidad Mayor de San Marcos de Lima.* Lima, 1903–04.

Succeeded in 1906 by the *Revista Universitaria.* Lima, Peru. Universidad Mayor de San Marcos. (Yale.)

Anales de la Universidad de Chile: Santiago, 1846–1906. (90 vols.) (Yale.) *Apendice . . . Indice alfabético y analítico de los trabajos publicados 1843–1887. Por E. Valenzuch y Guzman.* Santiago: 1890.

In the *Apéndice* one gets some idea of the class of material that may be encountered in the *Anales.* In the forty-four years covered by the index, there are mentioned 136 articles referring to civil law, 6 articles on natural law, 8 articles on international law, 15 articles on political economy, 16 articles on constitutional and administrative law, and 12 articles on commercial law. There are also 43 articles classified as history, and 64 classified as biography. Classified under the science of medicine there are 278 articles. As the character of the publication has not changed materially since the index was issued in 1887, one may reasonably expect to find the same proportion during the past twenty years.

Estadistica bibliográfico de la literatura Chilena (desde la introduccion de la imprenta en Chile, en 1812, hasta el fin del . . . año de 59), etc. By Ramon Briseno. Published by Universidad de Chile. Santiago de Chile, 1862. 4° (B. M.)

El Código Civil ante la Universidad, ó sus comentarios por los abogados mas célebres del Foro Chileno, etc. [A collection of Theses.] Recopilados por . . . [Luis Cisternas Moraga.] Published by Universidad de Chile. Santiago, 1871, etc. 8° In progress. (B. M.)

Anales de la Universidad. Bogotá. 10 vols. 1868–1879. (Yale.)

Anales de la Universidad Central de Venezuela. Caracas, 1902, etc.

Anuario de la Universidad de Los Andes en los Estados Unidos de Venezuela. Merida, 1893, etc.

I have placed in the notes a list of some of the more important Argentine material of this nature, with some indication of where it may be found.[a] Similar lists might be prepared for the other Republics. The publications of a scientific nature are much more accessible than those relating to history and political science. There has been no attempt made to make this list complete. It is intended merely to be suggestive.

It is possible to find in the larger American libraries many of the printed sources, and in a few cases good working collections which offer opportunities for research.

The Library of Congress has a continually increasing collection of books on South America. It has recently acquired a collection of the laws and decrees of Brazil, numbering about 300 volumes.

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[a] *La Biblioteca. Revista mensual dirigida por P. Groussac.* Buenos Aires: 1896, etc. In progress. (Brit. Mus.)

Anales de la Biblioteca. Publicación de documentos relativos al Rio de la Plata con introducciones y notas por P. Groussac. Buenos Aires: 1900, 1902. 2 vols.

Anales del Museo de La Plata. La Plata: 1890, etc. In progress. (Harvard.)

Revista del Museo de La Plata. La Plata: 1890, etc. In progress. (Yale.)

Revista del Archivo general de Buenos Aires fundada bajo la proteccion del gobierno de la provincia por Manuel Ricardo Trelles. Buenos Aires: 1869–72. 4 vols. (L. C.)

La revista de Buenos Aires. Historia americana, literatura, derecho y variedades. Periódico destinado á la Republica Argentina, la oriental del Uruguay y la del Paraguay. Buenos Aires: 1863–71. 25 vols. (Yale has vols. 1–12.)

Nueva Revista de Buenos Aires. Buenos Aires: 1861–85. 13 vols. (Brit. Mus.)

Revista del Rio de la Plata, periódico mensual de historia y literatura de América. Buenos Aires. 13 vols.

Revista de Derecho, Historia y Letras. Buenos Aires. Now in its tenth year. (Col. Mem. Lib.)

El Museo Histórico. Publicación trimestral, ilustrada y descriptiva. Buenos Aires: 1892–95. (Brit. Mus.)

Bulletin mensuel de Statistique municipale de la Ville de Buenos Aires. [Buenos Ayres]: 1891–94.

Monthly Return of Municipal Statistics of the City of Buenos Aires. Buenos Aires: 1894–97.

Monthly Bulletin of Municipal Statistics of the City of Buenos Aires. Buenos Aires: 1897, etc. In progress. (Brit. Mus.)

Comercio exterior argentino. Quarterly. (L. C.)

Anuario. Dirección general de estadística. Buenos Aires. (L. C.)

Anuario estadístico. Dirección general de estadística, Buenos Aires (province). (L. C.)

Boletin oficial de la República Argentina. Buenos Aires. Monthly. (Patent Office, Washington.)

Registro oficial del Gobierno de Buenos Aires. Buenos Aires, 1835–73. (Brit. Mus.)

Revista de Lejislacion y Jurisprudencia, publicada bajo la direccion de J. M. Moreno, C. Araujo, A. E. Malaver, J. J. Montes de Oca. Tom. 1–11. Buenos Aires: 1869, etc. (Brit. Mus.)

Boletín. Instituto geográfico argentino, Buenos Aires. Monthly. (L. C.)

The Pan-American Bureau, which is soon to be housed in such attractive and commodious quarters, contains the archives of the International American Conferences, and publishes numerous handbooks and maps, besides a MONTHLY BULLETIN, which contains useful bibliographical notes. Under the direction of the Bureau is the Columbus Memorial Library, which possesses a large collection of books relating to all the American Republics and is constantly increasing in importance. Its files of South American newspapers alone give it a unique position for the student of modern South American politics and social conditions. It has recently published a list of its books on the history and geography of Latin America.[a]

When one adds the Government archives to the material offered by these two libraries, it is readily seen that the opportunities for prosecuting South American research in Washington are so good as to place that city easily first.[b]

After Washington comes New Haven, for it is probably true that the Yale Library has the best single collection of South American material in the country. Besides about 3,400 manuscripts already mentioned, this collection includes over 7,000 volumes of printed sources, official documents, laws, codes and decrees, periodicals and newspapers, political pamphlets, and secondary works. Among these are 300 volumes of Spanish-American newspapers and journals—official, ecclesiastical, political, and literary. There are several complete sets of the characteristic ephemeral periodicals in which the Spaniard delights to express himself. Some of the official newspapers, notably the "*Diario Oficial*," of Columbia (80 volumes), and the "*Gaceta Oficial*," of Venezuela (25 volumes), offer an unusual opportunity for monographs in political science. Of interest in this connection are some 500 volumes of the official publications of Colombia and Venezuela. The laws, codes, and commentaries of those countries are represented by some 350 volumes and an interesting collection of manuscript volumes, illustrative of the process of codifying the laws of Colombia. The number of minor printed sources and secondary works is unusually large. This is due chiefly to the collection of South Americana made by Don JORGE POMBO, of Bogota, an indefatigable collector for over twenty years, 2,000 of whose books have recently been acquired by the library.

The Harvard Library possesses an excellent working collection of South Americana numbering about 2,300 volumes. It includes a quantity of material relating to boundary disputes.

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[a] List of Latin American History and Description in the Columbus Memorial Library. International Bureau of the American Republics. Washington: 1907. (Yale.)

[b] The South American periodicals available in Washington are in: *A Union List of Periodicals, Transactions and Allied Publications Currently Received in the Principal Libraries of the District of Columbia, Compiled under the Direction of A. P. C. Griffin, Chief of Division of Bibliography* [Library of Congress]. Washington: 1901. (Yale.)

The history of Brazil is well represented in the library of Cornell University. Cornell purchased in 1896 the library of the late H. H. Smith, the author of a well-known book on Brazil.[a]

The University of Pennsylvania has recently acquired a set of the public documents of Argentina, Chile, Peru, and Bolivia, and also a great number of reprints of historical documents contained in the archives of those countries.

The Bar Association of New York has complete sets of the codes and commentaries of all the South American Republics.

The Lenox Branch of the New York Public Library has a good collection of early printed books relating to the colonial period.

The John Carter Brown Library is also strong in this same field; one of their interesting items is a collection of rare Peruvian pamphlets, 1800–1830.

The John Crerar Library in Chicago is well equipped, particularly with the scientific periodicals of South America.[b]

The Newberry Library of Chicago has a MS. of 1,477 sheets, entitled the "Decline and Fall of the Spanish Empire," by (the late) Robt. H. Vickers. Its collection of South American material is rapidly increasing.

The University of California is very strong for northern Spanish America, and has a good working collection of South Americana.

In the Ticknor collection of the Boston Public Library are some manuscripts and many useful books.[c]

And so this list might be prolonged, but perhaps enough has been said to show that there is far more material available in this country for South American research than is generally supposed, and that the opportunity for scholarly work in the field of South American history and politics is an uncommonly good one.[d]

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[a] *Brazil, the Amazon and the Coast.* New York, 1879. 644 pp. Mr. Smith went to Brazil in 1870, returning in 1874 with the idea of collecting Amazonian animals. He spent about three years and a half in making explorations, and collected a large mass of notes and over a hundred thousand specimens, principally entomological. He made two other trips to South America, writing articles for Scribner's. His library consisted of several volumes of MS. notes and transcripts, 20 cases of newspaper clippings, and 1,500 books relating chiefly to Brazil.

[b] For the available periodicals see: *A List of Serials in Public Libraries of Chicago and Evanston, Corrected to January, 1901. Compiled by the Chicago Library Club.* Chicago: 1901, and supplements. (Yale.)

[c] Vid. also *A List of Periodicals, Newspapers, Transactions, and Other Serial Publications Currently Received in the Principal Libraries of Boston and Vicinity.* Boston: 1897. (Yale.)

[d] For information in regard to the material in various libraries I am indebted to many different persons. Particular thanks are due to the officials of the Library of Congress, the Columbus Memorial Library, the John Crerar Library, the Newberry Library, and the libraries of Cornell, Harvard, and Yale. I regret that lack of space forbids further mention of these and many others who have given generous assistance.

CONSTITUTIONAL ACT OF THE CENTRAL AMERICAN FRATERNITY.

In the city of Washington, on December 14, 1907, Messrs. Enrique C. Creel, William I. Buchanan, Lic. Luis Anderson, Joaquín Bernardo Calvo, Lic. Antonio Batres Jáuregui, Víctor Sánchez Ocaña, Dr. Luis Toledo Herrarte, Dr. Policarpo Bonilla, E. Constantino Fiallos, Dr. Ángel Ugarte, Dr. José Madriz, Dr. Luis F. Corea, Dr. Salvador Gallegos, Dr. Federico Mejía, and Dr. Salvador Rodríguez G., assembled in the New Willard Hotel.

Mr. Creel presented the following resolution, which was agreed to:

Whereas: The work undertaken and carried out by the Central American Peace Conference not only comprises an important international program whose object is to secure the peace, union, and harmony of those sister countries in reference, but has also thereby made a great stride toward a practical application of those principles establishing for the first time in the world a Permanent Court of Justice, which shall decide, in accordance with law and reason, all international questions that might, in many cases, be a cause of war; and

Whereas: This experiment is of interest to mankind, which in its progressive evolution is endeavoring to secure the triumph of right over might, of pacific solutions over bloody struggles, and the prevalence of right and of justice as the loftiest of its ideals; and

Whereas: Public opinion will no doubt efficiently contribute to maintain and disseminate such principles, giving greater prestige to said court and greater popularity and strength to its decisions;

It is agreed to establish a "Central American Fraternity" of a scientific character, which shall make the propaganda of these principles, in conformity with the following bases, by-laws, rules, and regulations:

I. An association entitled *Fraternidad Centroamericana* (Central American Fraternity) is hereby established, whose principal object shall be to work in behalf of the peace, harmony, and progress of Central America; to strive for the maintenance of the Central American Court of Justice and the proper obedience to its decisions, and, in general, to make a propaganda in favor of the principles set forth in the different conventions of the Washington Conference.

II. The Central American Fraternity may embrace, not only those who are here present and natives or residents of Central America, but also all persons favorably disposed who, by reason of sympathy toward the countries of Central America, because of interests therein or intercourse with the inhabitants thereof, or through having resolved to develop, propagate, and defend the principles of international justice, desire to become members of said association and to support its work.

III. In each of the Central American Republics, in the United States of America, and in the United Mexican States there shall be delegations which shall meet in such places as their respective Presidents may designate, in order to render an account of the results of their propaganda, for an exchange of views, and to enter into such agreements as they may deem advisable for the success of the common cause.

IV. The meetings in each Republic shall have the character of Regular Assemblies, and the General meetings, held in some of the countries by agreement of the seven Presidents, at which the delegations shall assist, shall have the character of Special meetings.

V. The leading matters to be discussed both in the Regular and Special meetings shall be stated in the programme without prejudice to such other matters as the members will be at liberty to propose.

VI. Each delegation shall be composed of a president, a vice-president, a treasurer, a secretary, and three members.

VII. In the by-laws and rules and regulations the powers of the delegations and the duties of the members shall be specified.

VIII. There shall be active and honorary members, whose reception into the Fraternity shall be approved by the respective delegations or by the Regular or Special meetings.

IX. The Fraternity shall adopt a badge, the features of which shall be specified in the by-laws, and on which shall appear in relief the words "Fraternidad Centroamericana."

(Signed)

ENRIQUE C. CREEL.
WM. I. BUCHANAN.
LUIS ANDERSON.
J. B. CALVO.
SALVADOR GALLEGOS.
F. MEJÍA.
ANTONIO BATRES JÁUREGUI.
VÍCTOR SÁNCHEZ O.
JOSÉ MADRIZ.
LUIS F. COREA.
LUIS TOLEDO HERRARTE.
SALVADOR RODRÍGUEZ G.
P. BONILLA.
E. C. FIALLOS.
ANGEL UGARTE.

FIRST MEETING OF THE FRATERNITY.

In the city of Washington, at 12 noon, on December 18, 1907, Messrs. Enrique C. Creel, Dr. Luis Anderson, Joaquín Bernardo Calvo, Lic. Antonio Batres Jáuregui, Víctor Sánchez Ocaña, Dr. Luis Toledo Herrarte, Dr. Policarpo Bonilla, E. Constantino Fiallos, Dr. Angel Ugarte, Dr. José Madriz, Dr. Luis Felipe Corea, Dr. Salvador Gallegos, Federico Mejía, and Dr. Salvador Rodríguez Gonzalez, assembled in the International Bureau of the American Republics for the purpose of holding the first meeting of the Central American Fraternity organized by act of the 14th. The following action was taken:

First. Mr. Enrique C. Creel was unanimously elected President of the Central American Fraternity, and immediately entered upon the discharge of his duties.

Second. The president appointed Dr. José Madriz, secretary of the Fraternity, and the latter immediately entered upon the discharge of his duties.

Third. On motion of the president a committee was appointed, composed of Drs. Madriz and Fiallos, to draft the by-laws of the Fraternity.

Fourth. On motion of Dr. Bonilla, Mr. Creel was added to the committee.

Fifth. On motion of Mr. Anderson, Mr. Creel was unanimously declared life President of the Central American Fraternity, and the following gentlemen were elected Honorary Presidents of the same: His Excellency Elihu Root and His Excellency Ignacio Mariscal, Secretary of State of the United Mexican States.

Sixth. Messrs. Ugarte and Corea having stated that the Hon. Robert Bacon, First Assistant Secretary of State of the United States, had signified his willingness to become an active member of the Central American Fraternity, he was, on motion of President Creel, unanimously declared a member.

Seventh. On motion of Mr. Anderson it was agreed to appoint the chairman of the delegations to the Peace Conference as Special Commissioners to work in behalf of the organization of the Fraternity in their respective countries.

Eighth. On motion of the President the following persons in Mexico were appointed members of the Central American Fraternity:

(A list to follow.)

Ninth. On motion of Mr. Ugarte it was agreed that each delegation should propose at the next meeting the names of the persons that should be appointed active members in their respective countries, without prejudice to the provisions contained in the by-laws and regulations concerning the admission of new members.

Tenth. The president appointed a commission composed of Messrs. COREA and MEJÍA, to deliver to His Excellency ELIHU ROOT his appointment as Honorary President.

Eleventh. On motion of Mr. ANDERSON it was agreed to organize a Permanent Committee of the Fraternity in Washington, which should be composed of Messrs. CREEL, BUCHANAN, and the five Ministers of the Central American Republics resident in that city.

Twelfth. On motion of Mr. BATRES JÁUREGUI a vote of thanks was given to Mr. CREEL for his great interest and kind efforts in behalf of Central America.

Thirteenth. On motion of Mr. SÁNCHEZ OCAÑA, Mr. JOHN BARRETT was appointed an active member of the Fraternity.

Fourteenth. On motion of Mr. CREEL, Mr. ANDREW CARNEGIE was appointed an honorary member of the Fraternity.

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 p. m.

ENRIQUE C. CREEL,
President.

JOSÉ MADRIZ,
Secretary.

BY-LAWS OF THE CENTRAL AMERICAN FRATERNITY.

CONCERNING THE NAME AND OBJECT OF THE FRATERNITY.

ARTICLE 1. The name of the association is the Central American Fraternity.

ART. 2. Its object is of a social and scientific character, and the principal purpose of its labors shall be to promote the peace, harmony, and progress of Central America; to render still closer its relation with Mexico, the United States of America, and other countries, and, generally, to proclaim the principles enunciated in the conventions of the Central American Peace Conference of Washington.

CONCERNING THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FRATERNITY.

ART. 3. There shall be a Governing Board of Directors or Delegates in each of the capitals of the following countries: Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, El Salvador, the United States of America, and the United Mexican States.

The government, management, and administration of the Fraternity shall be in charge of said Delegates or Governing Boards of Directors, elected separately in their respective countries by secret ballot, and composed of seven members each. The term of service shall be three years, and immediately after appointment the Board shall elect from among its members a president, vice-president, treasurer, and secretary.

ART. 4. Each Board of Directors shall make a propaganda in its own country, and, to that end, shall hold social meetings, give lectures, issue publications, and fulfill all the functions provided by the charter and by-laws of the Fraternity.

ART. 5. The members of the Board of Directors shall continue in this capacity even after the term of three years, unless they have been replaced by the election of other persons.

ART. 6. In case of vacancies in any of the Boards of Directors they shall be filled by electing from among the members of the Fraternity new members who shall fulfill their functions until the next regular meeting.

ART. 7. Five members shall make a quorum of the Board of Directors or Delegates.

ART. 8. The Board of Directors established in Mexico, Federal District, shall, further, have the character of a Central Executive Board and shall have charge of the general management of all matters of the Central American Fraternity.

ART. 9. The Boards of Directors shall hold meetings every three months, and whenever the President of each shall so decide, shall call a regular meeting at least once a year, as well as special meetings, as provided for in article 10.

ART. 10. Whenever a majority of the Presidents of the Boards of Directors so agree, or when the Life President decides concerning the holding of a special meeting, the Central Executive Board shall publish the call, stating the date, place, and hour of the meeting, without prejudice to such publication as the Board of Directors of each country may deem proper to make.

ART. 11. The several Boards of Directors shall periodically report to the Central Executive Board the result of their work, as well as the names and residences of the new members; they shall forward such official and private publications as may be of interest to the Fraternity, and, in general, shall furnish all such news as may be utilized in order to make known the natural wealth of Central America, its material progress, and its intellectual advancement.

CONCERNING THE PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT.

ART. 12. The President or, in his absence, the Vice-President of a Delegation shall preside over the meetings of the Board of Directors, and the regular meetings of the Fraternity, except when the Life President or Delegate is present. In the absence of said officials, the members present shall designate a president pro tempore.

ART. 13. The President shall conduct the discussions of the Board of Directors and of the regular meetings, endeavoring to main-

tain perfect harmony among the officers and members, and shall cause the provisions of the rules and regulations to be complied with.

In general, the President shall be the legal and genuine representative of the Fraternity, and, together with the Secretary, shall sign the correspondence and all official documents.

CONCERNING THE TREASURER.

ART. 14. The duties of the Treasurer are:

(*a*) To receive all the funds entering the Treasury of the Fraternity; to have custody of the same, and to pay all bills checked by the Board of Directors and approved by the President with his O. K.

(*b*) To keep a register of the members.

(*c*) To keep the necessary books and properly enter the accounts therein.

(*d*) To present to the Board of Directors at its regular meeting a summary of the state of the Treasury.

(*e*) To present to the regular meeting a detailed statement of the receipts and expenditures, and the financial condition of the Delegation.

(*f*) To deliver to his successor, at the expiration of his term of office, the funds, books, papers, documents, vouchers, and any other property of the Fraternity in his custody.

CONCERNING THE SECRETARY.

ART. 15. It shall be the duty of the Secretary:

(*a*) To draft and sign the minutes of the meetings of the Board of Directors and of the regular meetings of the members, which shall also be signed by the President.

(*b*) To keep in due form the books necessary for this purpose.

(*c*) To have custody of the archives, and to attend to the correspondence.

(*d*) To call the meetings of the Board of Directors, and also the regular and special meetings of the members.

(*e*) To keep a register of the members.

(*f*) To furnish to the Treasurer the names of the elected members, and all such data as may be useful for the making up of the accounts.

(*g*) To keep and fix the seal of the Fraternity.

(*h*) To audit, with two members of the Board of Directors, the accounts of the Treasury every six months, or oftener, should the Board of Directors deem advisable.

(*i*) To deliver to his successor on the expiration of his term of office, all the books, papers, documents, and any other property of the Fraternity under his charge.

CONCERNING THE MEMBERS.

ART. 16. There are two classes of members—active and honorary. Active members shall pay a monthly quota of 50 cents, in United States money, to the Treasurer of the Board of Directors in the countries where they reside. Honorary members are exempt from this payment.

ART. 17. Such active members as fail to pay their respective quotas for three successive months shall forfeit their membership in the Fraternity.

ART. 18. Both active and honorary members may be of any nationality, and have the same right to speak and vote in the regular and special meetings.

ART. 19. At the meetings of a Board of Directors or Delegates, on motion of any of the members, new members may be admitted, provided a majority of the members so decide in secret ballot. Both in the regular and special meetings, the election of new active members shall be carried by a majority vote, in the same manner, on motion of any of the members.

ART. 20. Both active and honorary members shall be bound to make the propaganda of the program and principles of the Fraternity.

ART. 21. Members shall attend both the regular and special meetings, and shall, from time to time, endeavor to bring about social meetings in order to keep alive and promote the spirit of this Association.

ART. 22. On motion of any Board of Directors, or general meeting, the Central Executive Board may appoint as honorary members such persons as may have distinguished themselves in their public or private careers and who may be an honor to the Fraternity.

ART. 23. Each member shall immediately communicate in writing to the Secretary any change that may take place in his domicile or address.

ART. 24. A copy of these by-laws shall be sent to each member when he is advised in writing of his appointment.

ART. 25. Members are entitled to a badge which shall bear the following motto: "Fraternidad Centroamericana." This badge shall be delivered, together with a diploma, the text of which shall be determined by the Central Executive Board.

ART. 26. Members shall regard the wearing of said badge at public functions as an honor, and may use daily a blue and white button as a symbol of the old flag Central American Federation.

CONCERNING GENERAL MEETINGS.

ART. 27. Regular meetings shall be held at least once a year; the first, on April 1, 1908, and subsequent ones on the first fortnight of January of each year. The other meetings called shall be held on such date as the Boards of Directors may fix.

ART. 28. Special meetings shall take place whenever the Presidents of the seven Boards of Directors shall so decide, or when the Life President shall call them.

ART. 29. At the meetings each member shall have one vote, and the decisions reached shall be by majority votes.

ART. 30. Regular meetings shall be presided over by the President of the Board of Directors, and special meetings shall be presided over by the Life President, and in the absence of the latter by the person to whom he may delegate said power.

ART. 31. At the general meetings the President shall, with the approval of the Assembly, appoint a Secretary and an Assistant Secretary.

ART. 32. Both at the regular and special meetings such reports as may have been received from the Boards of Directors shall be read, as also any report presented by the Central Executive Board and by the members.

The authors or secretaries shall also read such literary or scientific papers as the members may submit for the purpose of enhancing the success and prestige of said meetings.

ART. 33. The minutes of the general meetings shall be signed by the President and Secretary and shall be published in the Annual of the Central American Fraternity.

CONCERNING THE LIFE PRESIDENT.

ART. 34. By the unanimous vote of the charter members Mr. ENRIQUE C. CREEL was made Life President of the Central American Fraternity.

ART. 35. The duties of the Life President are:

(*a*) To act as President *ex officio* at all meetings of the Board of Directors, and at all regular or special meetings at which he may be present.

(*b*) To delegate his representation as President to any member of the Fraternity.

(*c*) To appoint Delegates to serve on special committees in all countries where the Central American Fraternity is established.

(*d*) To prescribe all provisions of a general character that tend to secure the best organization, maintenance, and progress of the Fraternity.

GENERAL PROVISIONS.

ART. 36. The Central Executive Board shall publish an Annual in which shall be stated the work done by each Delegation, as well as such events as are in any way connected with the Fraternity.

ART. 37. The by-laws may be amended at any special meeting by a two-thirds vote.

ART. 38. Each Board of Directors shall prepare its rules and regulations, and may reform the same whenever it may be deemed advisable.

ART. 39. On the recommendation of any regular or special meeting, the Central Executive Board may grant medals and badges to such persons as may have distinguished themselves by their good services to the Central American Fraternity.

ART. 40. On the request of ten members residing in other countries, the Board of Directors to whom said petition is made shall be entitled to organize new Delegations, which shall act in conformity with the constitution and by-laws, and also in accordance with their own rules and regulations.

Approved at the session of December 21, 1907, held in the City of Washington by the charter members, and at the session of the permanent committee of the Fraternity held on January 13, 1908.

ENRIQUE C. CREEL,
President.

JOSÉ MADRIZ,
Secretary.

President of the Central American Fraternity, His Excellency ENRIQUE C. CREEL, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United Mexican States.

Honorary President, His Excellency ELIHU ROOT, Secretary of State of the United States of America.

His Excellency IGNACIO MARISCAL, Secretary of State of the United Mexican States.

Honorary members of the Central American Fraternity: Mr. ANDREW CARNEGIE, of the United States; Hon. WILLIAM I. BUCHANAN, of the United States; Mr. JOSÉ D. GÁMEZ, of Nicaragua; Lic. JUAN BERRIOS M., of Guatemala; Gen. DIONISIO GUTIÉRREZ, of Honduras; Lic. JOSÉ ASTÚA AGUILAR, of Costa Rica; Dr. MANUEL E. ARAUJO, of Salvador.

Charter members of the Central American Fraternity: His Excellency ENRIQUE C. CREEL, of Mexico; Hon. WILLIAM I. BUCHANAN, of the United States, Dr. LUIS ANDERSON, of Costa Rica; Mr. JOAQUÍN BERNARDO CALVO, of Costa Rica; Lic. ANTONIO BATRES JÁUREGUI, of Guatemala; Mr. VICTOR SÁNCHEZ OCAÑA, of Guatemala; Dr. LUIS TOLEDO HERRARTE, of Guatemala; Dr. POLICARPO BONILLA, of Honduras; Mr. E. CONSTANTINO FIALLOS, of Honduras; Dr. ANGEL

UGARTE, of Honduras; Dr. JOSÉ MADRIZ, of Nicaragua; Dr. LUIS FELIPE COREA, of Nicaragua; Dr. SALVADOR GALLEGOS, of Salvador; Mr. FEDERICO MEJIA, of Salvador; Dr. SALVADOR RODRÍGUEZ G., of Salvador.

FIRST PAN-AMERICAN SCIENTIFIC CONGRESS.

The Executive Committee of the Fourth Latin-American (First Pan-American) Scientific Congress has announced the committees on propaganda appointed for each of the American Republics.

The committee for the United States consists of Prof. LEO S. ROWE, University of Pennsylvania; Prof. WILLIAM R. SHEPHERD, Columbia University; WILLIAM HERBERT HOBBS, Michigan; JOHN BARRETT, Director of the International Bureau of American Republics; ALBERT SHAW, New York; WILLIAM MORRIS DAVIS and CHARLES SARGENT, Massachusetts; representatives of the Universities of California, Chicago, Columbia, Cornell, George Washington, Harvard, Illinois, Johns Hopkins, Michigan, Minnesota, Pennsylvania, Princeton, Texas, Wisconsin, and Yale.

The following are the bases and programme of the Congress:

Bases and program of the Fourth Scientific Congress (First Pan-American) which meets in Santiago on the 1st day of December, 1908.

ARTICLE 1. In accordance with the resolutions of the Third Latin American Scientific Congress of Rio de Janeiro, a Fourth Scientific Congress (First Pan-American) will meet in the City of Santiago, in the month of December, 1908, under the auspices of the Government of Chile.

The Congress will open on the first of said month of December, and adjourn ten days thereafter.

ART. 2. The work of organization and procedure of the Fourth Congress shall be in charge of an Executive Committee composed: First, of members appointed by the Third Congress at the full session held on August 16, 1905; second, of members elected by the said committee.

ART. 3. The Executive Committee shall elect the officers of the Congress, composed of a President, two Vice-Presidents, a General Secretary, one or two Assistant Secretaries, a Treasurer, and an Assistant Treasurer.

There shall also be interpreters, clerks for the Secretary's office, and such other employees as may be deemed necessary.

Said committee shall appoint such Honorary Presidents as it may deem advisable.

ART. 4. The Executive Committee shall be subdivided into Subcommittees, each of which shall be composed of a chairman and two members selected by said Executive Committee.

ART. 5. The duties of the Executive Committee are:

1. To arrange for the Fourth Congress and to represent it with the Chilian Government, the Universities, and other national and foreign corporations.

2. To appoint, at the capitals of the American States, committees whose duties shall be to cooperate in the holding of the Congress, to prepare the list of the persons to be invited to participate in its proceedings, to procure an adequate representation from the several countries, and to suggest such questions as, because of their evident American interest, should be submitted to Congress.

3. To authorize disbursements and to approve accounts before being presented to the proper accounting authority.

4. To prepare the final questions to be propounded in accordance with the reports presented by the subcommittees.

5. To prepare a list of names of the members of the Congress, in conformity with the provisions of article 10.

6. To appoint such spokesmen as may be necessary to set forth before the proper sections the status of the question on such official topics as the executive board may consider of special interest.

ART. 6. After the election of the officers of the Congress the aforesaid committee shall cease to exercise its functions, but shall reassume them upon the adjournment of the Congress. It shall then have charge of the publication of such papers as may have been submitted, and shall sufficiently authorize the members of such new committee as may be appointed to arrange for the Fifth Scientific American Congress.

ART. 7. The subcommittees referred to in article 4 shall correspond to an equal number of sections of the Congress, and shall be the following:

1. On pure and applied mathematics.
2. On physical sciences.
3. On natural and anthropological sciences.
4. On engineering.
5. On medical science and hygiene.
6. On juridical science.
7. On social science.
8. On the sciences of pedagogy and of philosophy.
9. On agronomy and zootechnics.

Each subcommittee may be subdivided into two or more committees when deemed necessary, and two or more subcommittees may become a single committee.

ART. 8. It shall be the duty of each subcommittee—

1. To prepare a list of the questions to be propounded to the proper section.

2. To prepare a list of the members of the same.

3. To receive and classify such statements, studies, and communications as are sent to the section, and to designate the reporting member thereof, who shall inform the Congress of the views of the committee concerning the conclusions adopted by it.

4. To see that a report is made of the papers sent the committee, and which papers are not to be read by their authors.

5. To organize the proper section.

6. To receive the papers from the proper section and prepare them for publication.

ART. 9. A preliminary session of the Congress shall be held within three days of its formal opening, in order to approve rules and regulations for the Congress and to select the final officers thereof.

The officers of the Executive Committee shall preside at these preliminary meetings.

ART. 10. The following persons shall be regarded as members of the Congress:

1. The official delegates of the countries represented.

2. The delegates of the universities, institutes, societies, and scientific centers of the countries represented as well as of other countries of America.

3. Such persons as attend the Congress invited by the Executive Committee, on motion, or at the request of, the proper subcommittees or of the committees of the different countries.

4. The supporters of the Congress who contribute with the quota of £1 sterling, and who are accepted by the Executive Committee.

ART. 11. All the members of the Congress shall be entitled to attend its sessions, to take part in the debates, and to receive a copy of such publications as the Executive Committee may issue.

ART. 12. Before the proper membership card is issued the payment of the quota referred to in paragraph 4 of article 10 shall be made to the Treasurer of the Executive Committee, after the proper advice of the General Secretary or of the respective subcommittees.

ART. 13. Of the full sessions held by the Congress, the opening and the closing sessions shall be formal ones.

The subcommittees shall hold separately such meetings as they may deem necessary for the discussion of the matters submitted to them.

ART. 14. Such Americans as have become prominent in the field of science may be appointed honorary members of the Fourth Congress whenever the Executive Committee deem proper to confer this honor upon them.

ART. 15. Papers for the Congress shall be received as late as September 30, 1908.

Authors of papers not forwarding the same in due time should forward the titles thereof to the General Secretary within the time specified.

ART. 16. Each subcommittee shall designate at the proper time the places, institutions, or special establishments to be visited by the members of the Congress and shall indicate how these visits are to be made.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

In connection with the programme a letter from the presiding officer of the Executive Committee to Professor ROWE is published below:

"SANTIAGO, CHILE, *July 3, 1907.*

"To Mr. L. S. ROWE,

"*President of the American Academy of Political and Social Science and Professor of Political Science in the University of Pennsylvania.*

"MY DEAR SIR: I have the honor to inform you that the Executive Committee of the Fourth Scientific Congress (First Pan-American Scientific Congress), at a session held yesterday, unanimously passed the following resolution:

"'*Be it resolved*, That in view of the Pan-American character of the Fourth Scientific Congress which is to assemble in Santiago, Chile, on the 1st of December, 1908, the Executive Committee respectfully requests Mr. L. S. ROWE, President of the American Academy of Political and Social Sciences and Professor of Political Science in the University of Pennsylvania, to confer with the Governing Board of the Bureau of the American Republics and with the Director of the Bureau with a view to ascertaining to what extent the Fourth Scientific Congress may be able to facilitate the work of the Fourth Pan-American Conference which is to meet in 1910.'

"The committee furthermore requests Mr. ROWE to confer with the authorities of the universities in the United States in order to secure their cooperation in the work of the First Pan-American Scientific Congress (Fourth Scientific Congress).

"Signed by the Executive Committee:

"VALENTIN LETELIER, *President.*
"MANUEL EJIDIO BALLESTEROS, *Vice-President.*
"EDUARDO POIRIER, *General Secretary.*
"AUGUSTO VICUNA S., *Assistant Secretary.*
"ALEJANDRO ALVAREZ.
"DIEGO BARROS ARANA.
"ALEJANDRO BELTRAN.
"MIGUEL CRUCHAGA.
"LUIS ESPOJO.
"JOSÉ RAMÓN GUTIÉRREZ.
"ANSELMO HEVIA RIQUELME.
"VICENTE IYQUIERDO.
"OCTAVIO MAIRA,
"MARCIAL MARTINEZ,
"DOMINGO V. SANTA MARIA.
"MIGUEL VARAS.

"The Executive Committee of the Congress is deeply conscious of the efficient cooperation which you can render, inspired, as you are, by the most elevated ideals of fraternity between the countries of the American continent.

"Your cooperation constitutes for the Committee an assurance that nothing will be left undone to promote an interest in the United States in the work of the Congress, thus contributing considerably toward the success of its labors. We are convinced that this cooperation will mean a step forward in the solution of those important problems which are of interest to all the countries of America, and will strengthen the bonds of friendship that exist between them.

"I beg you to accept the assurances of my distinguished consideration.

"Very sincerely, yours,

"(Signed) VALENTIN LETELIER,
"President.
"EDUARDO POIRIER,
"General Secretary."

THE UNITED STATES FLEET FROM RIO TO CALLAO.

After a stay of nine days at Rio de Janeiro the United States battleship fleet, under the command of Rear-Admiral R. D. EVANS, reviewed by President PENNA and escorted out of the harbor by the Brazilian war ships, on January 22, 1908, following the liveliest manifestations of good will by the Brazilian people and authorities, and having exchanged final salutes, steamed on its way toward the Strait of Magellan and next stop at Punta Arenas. Four days later, on the morning of the 26th, the fleet came into communication by radiograph with the Argentine squadron under the command of Admiral HIPOLITA OLIVA, sent by President FIGUEROA ALCORTA as a special compliment to meet and escort the United States fleet on the high seas. Later in the day the fleet was joined by Admiral OLIVA's squadron which escorted it during the night and part of the next day. Courtesies and salutes were exchanged. On taking leave on January 27, the Argentine squadron steamed twice around the United States fleet and then bore away bearing the thanks of Admiral EVANS to the Argentine Government for this most cordial greeting and the good will displayed toward the Navy and people of the United States in sending its war ships to meet the fleet.

Meanwhile the torpedo flotilla, under the command of Lieut. H. I. CONE, which left Rio de Janeiro January 21, arrived at Buenos Aires on the 26th, escorted by the Argentine flotilla which had been sent out to meet it. Four days were spent in the Argentine capital, during

which every attention and courtesy was shown to the United States naval officers and sailors by the authorities and the people of Buenos Aires. Lieutenant CONE and his officers were on January 27 received by President FIGUEROA ALCORTA, by Señor ESTANISLAO S. ZEBALLOS, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Admiral ONOFRE BETBEDER, Minister of the Navy, and General ROSENDO M. FRAGA, Minister of War.

On the same day President FIGUEROA ALCORTA sent the following message to President ROOSEVELT:

"*To His Excellency the President of the United States of America, Theodore Roosevelt, Washington:*

"I have to-day received with the greatest pleasure the visit of the officers of the United States torpedo flotilla. While the two divisions of the larger squadrons exchange salutes on the high seas in the name and in honor of the two Republics, the nation and the authorities in testimony of the respect and good will which this visit inspires toward the American people and their distinguished President are manifesting in rivalry their affection for the glorious navy of the Union. In most cordially thanking your Excellency for sending the flotilla to Buenos Aires I renew to your Excellency the expression of the deep and inalterable sympathy of the Argentine Republic for the United States of America and for its distinguished chief. With best wishes for your Excellency's happiness and a successful voyage for the Pacific squadron.

"FIGUEROA ALCORTA,
"*President of the Argentine Republic.*"

Señor ZEBALLOS on the same day sent the following message to Secretary ROOT:

"*To the Secretary of State, Elihu Root, Washington:*

"I have had the honor to receive in my office the officers of the American torpedo flotilla. This visit, celebrated with lively sympathy by the people and by the authorities, brings to mind pleasant recollections of Mr. ROOT's voyage to South America. The Argentine Republic and its government profoundly acknowledge the sincere friendship of Mr. ROOT, frequent proofs of which he has, before and after that memorable voyage, given to them. These new testimonials of international cordiality coincide with a noteworthy economical fact. Trade between our two countries, whose increase has been and is the constant aim of the two chancelleries, rose in 1907 to the unprecedented sum of forty millions of dollars. Thus a new era of prosperity for the relations of the two friendly Republics is assured. With best wishes for the well-being of the American nation, for the health and happiness of its distinguished Secretary of State, and that propitious winds and calm seas may bear the Pacific squadron to its country's coast.

"E. S. ZEBALLOS,
"*Minister of Foreign Relations.*"

To these messages of courtesy and good will the following replies were made:

"WASHINGTON, *January 29, 1908.*

"His Excellency President ALCORTA,

"Buenos Aires:

"I have been greatly gratified to receive your cordial message in regard to the visit of the torpedo boats and have been especially touched by the evidences of friendly good will shown in the exchange of naval courtesies and in the welcome granted to our officers and men by the Government and people of your country. With nations as with individuals such kindly amenities are very potent in strengthening the bonds of friendship, and all the people of the United States greatly desire this as between them and the people of Argentina.

"THEODORE ROOSEVELT."

"WASHINGTON, *January 29, 1908.*

"His Excellency Señor ZEBALLOS,

" Minister Relaciones Exteriores, Buenos Aires:

"Your telegram dated the 27th reached me with some delay. I hasten to assure Your Excellency of the deep appreciation which this Government and people feel for the warm reception extended to our visiting torpedo flotilla. I am especially gratified at your Excellency's cordial remembrance of my visit in 1906, and I am glad to believe that, besides the great personal pleasure it afforded me, it has helped to show the intimate friendship of the two peoples and to strengthen their mutual desire for beneficial intercourse. With the kindest personal regards.

"ELIHU ROOT,

"Secretary of State of the United States."

The battle-ship fleet was sighted by the Chilean authorities on January 30 off Cape Virgins, and on February 1 it steamed into the harbor at Punta Arenas. The Chilean cruiser *Chacabuco* with Admiral SIMPSON, of the Chilean Navy, Mr. JOHN HICKS, United States Minister to Chile, and other dignitaries on board, was in port to meet the fleet. Admiral SIMPSON, who is Vice Minister of the Navy, was on special mission from his Government to welcome Admiral EVANS, his officers and men, on behalf of the Government of Chile. The torpedo flotilla, which left Buenos Aires on January 30, arrived at Punta Arenas on February 4. The fleet and the flotilla remained in the harbor until the night of February 7, when they proceeded westward through the strait preceded by the *Chacabuco*.

During their stay in Punta Arenas every attention was shown by the Chileans under the direction of Admiral SIMPSON, who, on February 2, gave a dinner on board the *Chacabuco* to the officers of the

LARGE DINING ROOM OF STEAMSHIP VERDI, ONE OF THREE NEW VESSELS OF LAMPORT & HOLT LINE BETWEEN NEW YORK, RIO, AND BUENOS AIRES.

fleet. Visits of ceremony were exchanged with the *Chacabuco*, the English cruiser *Sappho*, which was in the harbor, and with the officials of the port. A ball was given in honor of the occasion by the United States Consular Agent MORITZ BRAUN, and a reception attended by over four hundred guests was given by Governor CHAIGNEAU, of the Territory of Magellan, to the visiting Americans.

After passing the strait the fleet turned northward, and on February 14 arrived opposite the city of Valparaiso. Here elaborate preparations had been made for a review of the fleet by President PEDRO MONTT on board the *Baquedano*, attended by his Cabinet and other officials of the Chilean Government and of the city of Valparaiso. In regard to the event Mr. JOHN HICKS, United States Minister, sent the following dispatch to the State Department:

"Review of the American fleet by President MONTT this afternoon was grand success. Led by *Chacabuco*, battle ships single-filed into harbor, out again. On reaching fort at entrance of harbor whole fleet fired simultaneous salute, and when passing in review Chilean war ship *Baquedano*, containing Presidential party, each ship fired twenty-one guns separately. Day was holiday, weather perfect, thousands of people lined hills, and shipping in harbor was decorated with bunting.

"As fleet went out of sight I received Marconi message from Admiral EVANS, stating all well, and sending message of thanks to President MONTT."

Admiral EVANS sent the following message to Admiral SIMPSON on board the *Chacabuco*:

"The commander of the Atlantic Fleet begs you to convey to President MONTT, in the name of himself, his officers, and men, the appreciation of the honor he has done them by reviewing the fleet off Valparaiso. To this I add expressions of my personal regard, and I hope I will have the pleasure of meeting you again. I send you my good wishes."

Admiral SIMPSON replied as follows:

"Thank you. I am instructed to convey to you the personal thanks of President MONTT for your good wishes. I and my officers all join in wishing Admiral EVANS and the officers of the American Fleet a hearty farewell and a successful and prosperous voyage."

The messages subsequently exchanged between Presidents MONTT ROOSEVELT will be published in the March BULLETIN.

TRAVEL ROUTES AND CONDITIONS IN SOUTH AMERICA.

The Bureau is constantly receiving letters from all parts of the world asking specific questions about routes and conditions of travel in South America. Among the many representative Americans who

have recently visited South America is Mr. LEE MCCLUNG, the Treasurer of Yale University. In response to the request of the Director of the Bureau he has supplied the BULLETIN with the following memorandum. Of course it is understood that the Bureau assumes no responsibility for the views and comment of Mr. MCCLUNG, as they express simply his personal impressions.

MEMORANDUM REGARDING SOUTH AMERICA.

The round trip from New York to and around South America, excluding the north coast, can be made in three months. Such a trip, involving about 15,000 miles sea travel, must necessarily, though, be hurried and superficial, and to that extent unsatisfactory.

During the summer of 1907 the writer made the trip, via Europe, in 98 days. This permitted a stop-over between steamers in two cases only, viz, Rio, Brazil, and Mollendo, Peru. In every other case the first steamer sailing was invariably taken. Of the 98 days en route, 53 were spent wholly at sea; 35 were wholly on land; and 10 were partly on sea and partly on land.

The 35 days on land were spent as follows: 3 in Europe, 8 in Rio, 2 in Montevideo, 6 in Buenos Aires, 1 in Concepcion, 2 in Santiago, 1 in Valparaiso, 7 in Southern Peru and Bolivia, including Arequipa, Lake Titicaca, and La Paz, 3 in Lima, 1 in Panama, and 1 in Kingston, Jamaica.

Of the 10 days partly on water and partly on land, the points touched included Coruña, Spain; Lisbon, Portugal; St. Vincent, Cape Verde Islands; Santos-San Paulo, Brazil; Punta Arenas in Magellan Strait; Iquique, Chile; Pisco, Peru; and Salaverry-Trujillo, Peru.

It is only fair to say that, while the short stops at the points named proved exceedingly interesting, it was provoking at times to be deprived of longer stays and to miss other things that were so near at hand. As instances I may cite that lack of time prevented my seeing anything of the interior of Brazil or Argentina; of visiting the opera or the races in Santiago; of witnessing a bull fight at Lima or elsewhere; and of seeing La Paz with its picturesquely costumed Indians on a Sunday or other Feast day. In fact the only one Sunday of the entire trip which I spent wholly on land was at Rio; and yet Sundays are the gala days, and are regarded in general as the most interesting days throughout Latin America. Then the making of close steamer connections at Panama unfortunately prevented any stop whatever on the Canal Zone, and consequently any inspection of the Canal.

Naturally special trips such as that up the Amazon, that from Buenos Aires up to the grand falls of the Yguassu, Argentina, or that by one of the smaller German steamers through the beautiful Smyths Channel on the west coast of Chile, are not possible in a short hurried tour around South America.

The entire ninety-eight days' trip above referred to involved travel of nearly 18,000 miles on sea and over 2,000 miles by land. The total expenses from departure to return, including the best transportation and hotel accommodations obtainable, but of course excluding unnecessary purchases and picture taking, aggregated about $1,250.

There is a direct steamship line (Lamport & Holt Line) from New York to Rio, with monthly sailings about the 5th of each month. Time of passage, eighteen or nineteen days, with stops south-bound at Pernambuco and Bahia. The steamers *Byron* and *Tennyson* have a tonnage of nearly 4,000 and are reported by those who have traveled on them as being roomy and comfortable. From New York to Rio, via Southampton and The Royal Mail Steamship Company Line, or Liverpool and the Pacific Steam Navigation Company Line, can be made in about twenty-five or twenty-six days. This route, though requiring a week longer in transit and being somewhat more expensive, of course, permits of the enjoyment of fine Atlantic steamers to Europe and first-class steamers to South America. These latter steamers range in tonnage from 10,500 down and, as a rule, are large, comfortable, and serve a good table. This route via Europe also permits short stop-overs at such places as Coruña, Spain, Lisbon, Portugal, and St. Vincent, Cape Verde Islands, etc., in addition to stops at Pernambuco and Bahia, Brazil.

Of the steamship lines from Europe perhaps the most popular is the Royal Mail, whose boats operate weekly (with occasional lapses) from Southampton, England. The sailing day is Friday. The Pacific Steam Navigation Company has biweekly service (Thursdays) from Liverpool. The time consumed by the boats of these two lines is about the same, i. e., eighteen or nineteen days to Rio. A few days saving of time may be effected by taking the steamer at one of the lower European ports en route, such as Rochelle, France, or Lisbon, Portugal. The North German Lloyd has a service to South America, but its sailings are apparently infrequent and slower and far less popular. There is an Italian line operating over to Buenos Aires, and I understood that it gives good service, but I had no personal experience with it whatever.

At Rio there are several first-class hotels. Perhaps the most delightful to stop at is The International on Santa Theresa, with an altitude of about 1,200 feet and halfway up the line to Corcorvado, from which point is to be had the finest view of Rio's beautiful harbor. The prices at this hotel are reasonable; average cost of meals and lodging about $4 (United States money) a day. The best hotel down town in Rio is doubtless the Estranjeros. I believe the prices in this hotel are somewhat higher than those obtaining at the International.

From Rio to Santos is a day's trip by steamer either local or through. The through steamers as a rule stop only a part of a day, which renders a side trip to São Paulo impracticable. Such trip, however, is sometimes made. At São Paulo the best hotel is the Sportsman's, located in the center of the town. The railroad journey from Rio to São Paulo is a long night's ride, and I was given to understand that it was not only expensive but uninteresting and very dusty, with a change of cars necessary at a very early hour in the morning.

From Santos to Montevideo is three days by steamer. Apparently the best hotel at Montevideo is The Oriental, about three blocks from the docks.

A large portion of the passenger business between Rio-Santos and Montevideo seems to be in connection with either The Royal Mail or The Pacific Steam Navigation Line. The boats of the former run up the La Plata River to Buenos Aires, but the boats of the latter remain anchored in the harbor of Montevideo and, instead of going up to Buenos Aires, proceed on their way around through Magellan Strait to Valparaiso. These boats, which sail biweekly from Liverpool, make continuous passage to Valparaiso; distance, 9,882 miles; time, five to six weeks.

There is a nightly local boat service between Montevideo and Buenos Aires, via the Mihanovitch Line. The trip consumes twelve hours or more.

At Buenos Aires there are perhaps literally dozens of hotels, presumably good, bad, and indifferent. The best two undoubtedly are The Palace and The Grand. These two hotels it is claimed are the only steam heated hotels in Buenos Aires. They are expensive and the prices for lodging and board range from $6 a day upward to $10 and $15.

I consider Rio and Buenos Aires the most expensive places to live in which I have ever been.

The Pacific Steam Navigation Company has biweekly service from Montevideo to Valparaiso via the Magellan Strait; alternate steamers stopping at the Falkland Islands. The steamers via Falkland Islands consume about thirteen days, while the other steamers consume about eleven days.

Instead of proceeding by water all the way to Valparaiso an interesting diversion is to leave the steamer at Talcahuano, Chile, 238 miles south of Valparaiso and only an hour's railroad ride from Concepcion, and, after a day or two at Concepcion, to make the daylight railroad journey from that point to Santiago. The scenery of the Andes all along the route is beautiful and interesting in the extreme. The cost of railroad travel in Chile is very cheap, averaging hardly more than a cent a mile. The service, including that on antiquated Pullman cars, is not first class.

At Santiago undoubtedly the best hotel is The Grand, which is steam heated and comfortably provided with bathing facilities. The prices are reasonable, i. e., $4 or $5 a day. The service and table are first class. Formerly the best hotel was The Oddo, but it is not to-day.

The railroad journey from Santiago to Valparaiso is about five hours, and the trip is interesting and the scenery at times beautiful.

At Valparaiso the best hotel is The Royal. On clear days the peak of Aconcaqua, 94 miles distant, may be clearly seen.

The steamship service between Valparaiso and Panama is only fair. There are two companies, The Pacific Steam Navigation Company and the Sud Americana, a Chilean line. The two companies apparently work in close harmony and together purport to maintain a weekly service between the two termini and in addition a weekly service between Valparaiso and Eten, Peru. The service, therefore, to and from ports between Valparaiso and Eten is semiweekly. All of this, however, is to a certain extent theoretical, as the service is very uncertain and erratic. There is certainly one steamer (*Victoria* of the P. S. N. C.) having a tonnage of 6,000, and there may possibly be others. There are none, I believe, larger, but a great many smaller. Most of them are comfortable, with a fairly good table which, however, grows monotonous after a short while.

The different ports on the west coast are more or less alike. The boats stop at these ports from a few hours to two or three days, anchoring in the open roadstead. Stops at important points like Antofagasta, Iquique, Chile, etc., are generally of about one day's duration. This permits passengers to go ashore for the purpose of getting a superficial idea of the different towns.

At Callao, the port for Lima, Peru, and 6 miles distant therefrom, the stop is generally about three days.

The entire distance from Valparaiso to Panama is 3,115 miles and the through steamers usually make the trip in about twenty-three days. This is subject to variations. The captains seem to figure on about ten days from Valparaiso to Callao and ten days from Callao to Panama. Considering a stop at Callao averaging about three days, the time for the entire trip would be about twenty-three days.

At Mollendo, Peru, the best hotel is The Ferro-Carril; second best, "4th of July." The railroad journey from Mollendo to Arequipa (102 miles) consumes about six hours. The service is daily. At Arequipa the best hotel is Pablos's; the next best is The Grand Central. The railroad service from Arequipa to Puno on Lake Titicaca (211 miles) is triweekly and consumes about twelve hours of the daytime. The boat service across Lake Titicaca (134 miles) accommodates itself to the railroad connection, and the time consumed in steaming from Puno to Guaqui is about fifteen hours. From Guaqui

to La Paz (80 miles) is by railroad, and consumes three to four hours.

At La Paz perhaps the best hotel is the Annex to the Guibert. It is possible to make the round trip from Mollendo to La Paz in a week, but this requires very close connections and permits of an unsatisfactorily short stay at La Paz, as well as at Arequipa. It also does not permit a trip to Cuzco, which is spoken of as the most interesting town in South America. While a railroad is being constructed to Cuzco, there is still an unfinished link of about 66 miles from a point called Checacupe, which is the present end of a branch line 142 miles from Juliaca, which in turn is 32 miles from Puno on Lake Titicaca. Over the unfinished link from Checacupe to Cuzco about two days each way are consumed in traveling by stage. From Arequipa a very interesting trip is that up El Misti, which is 19,200 feet altitude and which may be climbed entirely upon mule back. The trip can be made in two whole days from Arequipa, but naturally it is a hard and tedious journey.

At Lima the best hotel is the Maury. It has two or three "annexes." From Lima the trip up the Oroya Railroad may be made in two days. The service is tri-weekly and the journey up to Oroya (138 miles) is made in one day and the return journey is made in the next. It is possible to go from Oroya to the Cerro de Pasco Mines via the mining company's railroad on the same day that one goes from Lima to Oroya, but arrival at the mines is in the night, and of course nothing of the workings can then be seen. A stop-over is therefore very inviting if time permits.

At Guayaquil, Ecuador, the steamers anchor out in the river for one or two days, but through passengers are not allowed to go ashore on account of quarantine regulations. The railroad from Guayaquil to Quito is not yet completed, but is within 40 miles of Quito and under construction, and when completed will be 288 miles long. It is a two days' journey from Guayaquil to Quito.

At Panama the best hotel is The Tivoli. The railroad line from Panama to Colon is 48 miles in length, and the journey consumes about three hours in the making.

There is frequent service from Colon to New York via the Royal Mail Steamship Company Line, the Hamburg-American Line, or the Panama Steamship Company Line. The boats of the former two stop en route at Kingston, Jamaica, and make the trip in about seven days. The last-named line makes the journey uninterrupted to New York in about six days.

In all there were seven steamer stages, as it were: New York to France, France to Rio, Rio to Montevideo, Montevideo to Valparaiso, Valparaiso to Mollendo, Mollendo to Panama, Panama (Colon) to New York.

NOTES BY MRS. WRIGHT.

Mrs. Marie Robinson Wright, the noted authoress of books on Latin America, was asked by the Bureau to submit a memorandum based on her experiences. This is given below in the form prepared by her:

"Lloyd Brazileiro Company: Steamers leave the Bush docks, foot of Forty-fifth street, Brooklyn, twice monthly, calling at Barbados (6 days), Para (12 days), Maranhao (15 days), Ceara (18 days), Pernambuco (21 days), smaller ports and Rio de Janeiro (30 days from New York).

"Lamport and Holt Line: Steamers leave Fulton Ferry, Brooklyn, twice monthly, the 5th and 20th, calling at Bahia (16 days), Rio de Janeiro (18 days), Santos (19 days). The steamer leaving on the 20th proceeds farther south to Montevideo and Buenos Aires (21 days from New York).

"The Prince Line: Steamers leave twice monthly for Bahia, Rio de Janeiro, Santos, Montevideo, Buenos Aires, and Rosario.

"Booth Line: Steamers leave twice monthly, proceeding from New York to Barbados (5 days), Para (11 days), Manaos (16 days), and Ceara.

"Steamers from New York to the West Indies, Venezuela, Colombia, and Panama connect with steamship lines on the west coast of South America (one week).

"The Panama Railway Steamship Company: Steamers leave New York weekly for Colon direct, passengers for the west coast of South America crossing the Isthmus by rail (3 hours) to Panama, where steamers of the Pacific Steam Navigation Company and the Compañía Sul-Americana makes connections to convey them to Guayaquil, Ecuador (5 days); to Callao, Peru (10 days); Mollendo, Peru (15 days), at which latter point passengers disembark to go by rail to La Paz, Bolivia; to Antofagasta, which is the Chilean seaport for passengers and freight from Oruro and southern Bolivia (18 days); Coquimbo (19 days), and Valparaiso (21 days). At Valparaiso connections may be made to continue the journey to southern Chilean ports of Talcahuano (1 day), Coronel, Lota, Valdivia (3 days), and the Straits of Magellan (1 week from Valparaiso).

"Royal Mail Steam Packet Company has weekly sailings from New York to Jamaica, Panama, and the ports of Trinidad, etc. The same company has steamers from Southampton to these ports and a service weekly from Southampton to the ports of Pernambuco (14 days), Bahia (15 days), Rio de Janeiro (17 days), Santos (18 days), Montevideo (20 days), and Buenos Aires (21 days).

"The Pacific Steam Navigation Company has weekly sailings from Liverpool to Pernambuco, Bahia, Rio de Janeiro, Montevideo, Buenos Aires, Straits of Magellan (Punta Arenas), and Valparaiso, making practically the same time as the Royal Mail steamers.

"The Red D Line has sailings twice monthly from New York to parts of Venezuela, Colombia, and the West Indies.

"The Hamburg-American and Hamburg-South American lines have steamers from New York to Jamaica, Colombia, Costa Rica, Colon, Pernambuco, Maceio, Bahia, Rio de Janeiro, Santos, and Rio Grande do Sul; also a service between Europe and these ports, the European line being equipped with large modern steamers that call not only at Brazilian ports but also at Montevideo and Buenos Aires.

"The following hotels are among those of known repute in the various cities mentioned:

"Manaos, Hotel Casino; Para, Hotel da Paz; Maranhao, Hotel Central; Pernambuco, Hotel Van Landes; Bahia, Hotel Sul Americano; Rio de Janeiro, Hotel dos Estranjeiros, Hotel Internacional (suburban), and White's Hotel (also suburban); São Paulo, Rotisserie Sportsman; Montevideo, Oriental; Buenos Aires, Grand Hotel and Palace Hotel; Valparaiso, Royal Hotel; Santiago, Hotal Francis and Hotel Oddo; Coquimbo, Hotel Central; Iquique, Hotel Gran Central; Mollendo, Buena Vista; La Paz, Gran Hotal Guibert; Lima, Hotal Maury."

ADDRESS ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF SOUTH AMERICA.

In an interesting lecture delivered by Mr. WILLIAM E. CURTIS, former Director of the International Bureau of the American Republics, before the students of the George Washington University on February 6, 1908, contrast was forcibly drawn between the present and past conditions prevailing throughout Latin America. The awakening of commercial and industrial activity was noted and the United States was urged to a more lively participation in this movement.

In a total foreign trade of approximately $2,000,000,000 reported for Latin America, the share of the United States is at present about one-fourth, the figures for 1906 being $520,000,000. For the last calendar year (1907) an increase to $558,279,201 is noted, but Mr. CURTIS does not consider that the possibilities in the case are by any means reached.

Among the various causes assigned for the failure on the part of the United States to capture and maintain an absolutely commanding position in the markets to the south, the insufficiency of communication facilities was especially emphasized. The movement toward the establishment of complete reciprocity in trade relations between the two sections was sketched from its inception during the administration of President ARTHUR to the notable visit of Secretary ROOT

in the summer of 1906, and the work of the Bureau of the American Republics in the furtherance of a satisfactory status was favorably commented on. A better understanding of social and economic conditions has also been brought about by the interchange of visits on the part of scientific and literary men and by the work of United States engineers and mining experts in developing the latent resources of Latin America. German preeminence in the commercial and industrial life of many of the Republics was noted and the methods employed for the attainment of this end were outlined.

The $300,000,000 imports on the part of the United States from Latin America quoted for 1906 by Mr. CURTIS increased during 1907 by $17,000,000, and exports which in the former period aggregated $220,000,000 also advanced by $20,000,000, so that the general trend of trade relations is undoubtedly toward development.

As is well known the bulk of imports from Latin America by the United States consists of raw products, including coffee, cacao, sugar, tobacco, fruits, etc. In coffee alone, out of total imports valued at something over $71,000,000, nearly $69,000,000 represent purchases from Latin America. Over one-third of the cacao used in the various chocolate preparations of the country during 1907 came from South America, while Cuban raw sugar formed practically the total of the 3,872,221,473 pounds received, and tobacco from the same source covered one-half of the total imports, valued at $24,310,048.

What was characterized as a "triangular" trade condition between North and South America was also the subject of unfavorable comment on the part of the lecturer, as moneys paid by the United States for native South American products are, in the main, expended in European markets instead of finding a natural and reciprocal value in a nearer country.

SUGAR PRODUCTION OF LATIN AMERICA.

"The Brazilian Review" for December 3, 1907, publishes a table showing the production of sugar in various sections of Latin America in conjunction with the extra-European output. The figures for 1907–8 are estimates only, but are reproduced as a basis of comparison with the production of the preceding year:

	Tons.	
	1907–8.	1906–7.
Central America	24,000	19,000
Argentine Republic	120,000	119,000
Brazil	185,000	215,000
Cuba	1,260,000	1,428,000
Haiti and the Dominican Republic	60,000	60,000
Mexico	115,000	108,000
Peru	145,000	140,000

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

INTERNAL REVENUE IN 1907.

According to a report issued on the 2d of January, 1908, by the Administrator-General of Internal Revenue of the Argentine Republic the total amount of internal revenue collected during 1907 was 43,292,359.36 *pesos* paper and $28,012.98 gold, as compared with 39,977,524.62 *pesos* paper and $25,861.42 gold. The increase over 1906 is therefore of 3,319,724.50 *pesos* paper. The sources of revenue were as follows:

Taxes on—	*Pesos*, paper.	
	1906.	1907.
Alcohol	16,615,869.84	16,877,037.20
Tobacco	16,700,975.20	18,221,779.30
Beer	3,081,804.25	3,128,390.92
Matches	2,262,325.98	3,399,047.68
Playing cards	159,352.93	167,775.96
Beverages	76,163.86	109,331.14
Insurance	403,352.31	568,548.41
Patent medicines	677,690.25	820,448.65
Total	39,977,524.62	43,292,359.36

POSTAL AND TELEGRAPH SERVICE IN 1907.

The following statistics cover the movement of the postal and telegraph services of the Argentine Republic during the year 1907:

Up to December 31, 1907, the total number of offices established throughout the Republic was 2,138, distributed as follows: Federal capital, 52; Provinces—Buenos Aires, 581; Santa Fe, 297; Cordoba, 309; Entre Rios, 132; San Luis, 76; Mendoza, 71; San Juan, 36; Santiago del Estero, 81; Corrientes, 66; Tucuman, 81; Salta, 66; Catamarca, 54; Jujuy, 33; La Rioja, 47; Northern Territories, 32; Southern Territories, 124.

The postal movement amounted 625,330,960 pieces of mail matter, showing an increase of 73,316,063 pieces over the previous year. As the population of the Republic is 6,190,300 the average in said general movement would be 101 pieces per *capita*.

The number of registered letters and parcels, the value of which was declared in the central post post-office, amounted to 73,263 pieces, valued at $5,260,068.29. The movement of postal money orders was: Internal, issued, $8,491,507.37; international, issued, $254,219.68; international, paid, $209,213.50.

The number of telegraphic dispatches transmitted through the national lines during the year was 10,420,012.

On December 31, 1907, there were engaged in the services referred to 9,251 employees.

The revenues from both services were as follows: Posts, $7,578,-180.27; telegraphs, $2,255,374.90; total, $9,833,555.17; increase over 1906, $746,961.76.

RAILROAD EXPLOITATION IN 1907.

A résumé of railroad operations in the Argentine Republic during 1907, as issued by "*La Prensa*" of Buenos Aires for January 1, 1908, estimates the total length of line in exploitation by the last day of December, 1907, as 22,003.6 kilometers (13,672 miles), of which 1,443.9 (911.64 miles) kilometers were put into service during the course of the year. The above total does not include secondary lines and roads constructed for the benefit of temporary enterprises, which would account for 492.3 kilometers more, making a grand total of 22,495 kilometers.

The total cost of operating these lines was $87,952,600 gold, with reported profits of $33,326,600, while the total invested capital is $671,688,874.

Broad gauge (1,676 meters) lines aggregate 13,933.7 kilometers, narrow guage (1,000 meters) 6,130.8, and medium guage (1,435 meters), 1,9391 kilometers.

In the first class are included: the Andine, 482.1 kilometers; Buenos Aires Southern, 4,327.3; Buenos Aires Western, 1,962.3; Buenos Aires and Rosario, 1,996.9; Central Argentine, 1,830.1; Buenos Aires and Pacific, 1,677.6; Argentine Great Western, 802.8; Bahia Blanca and Northwestern, 854.6.

The narrow gauge lines are: Northern Central, 1,715.4 kilometers; Argentine Northern, 758.5; Santa Fe, 1,680.3; Central Cordoba, northern section, 884.6; Central Cordoba, eastern section, 208.8; Argentine Northwestern, 196.1; Cordoba and Rosario, 288.9; Cordoba Northeastern, 153.1; Transandine, 175; and the Chubut Central, 70.1.

Medium gauge lines include: Argentine Northeastern, 823.2; Entre Rios, 890.9; and the Buanos Aires Central, 225.

CONTRACT FOR THE SALE OF THE ANDINE RAILWAY.

The Argentine President sent to the National Congress on December 13, 1907, an Executive message setting forth the terms of a contract signed *ad referendum* between the Minister of Public Works of the Republic and the representatives of the Buenos Aires and Rosario and the Central Argentine railways.

According to Article 15 of the contract, the Central Argentine Company undertakes to buy all the lines of the National Andine Railway, including the lands, buildings, rolling and fixed material, materials in deposit, warehouses or workshops, and all other necessaries and annexes of the railway. The price to be paid is fixed at $27,828,000, national currency, payable in eight bills for equal sums, with interest at 5 per cent per annum, to fall due at successive periods of 90 days.

The agreement is declared null and void unless approved by the present Congress in "extraordinary session."

The message sent to Congress with the bill states that the Executive has encountered difficulties in finding a solution to the financial problem caused by the obligations contracted for the construction of sundry railway lines. The total cost of these lines and of the renewal of permanent ways, purchase of rolling stock, etc., amounts to 80,881,801 *pesos*, paper, of which sum 50,617,933 *pesos*, paper, has been disbursed, leaving a balance of 30,263,868 *pesos*, paper, which is detailed as follows:

	Pesos, paper.
Prolongation of railway to Bolivia	1,364,000
Serrezuela to San Juan	3,409,000
Chumbicha to Rioja, Andalgala, and Tinogasta	5,051,222
San Cristobal to Santa Fe	1,524,000
Zuviria to Guachipas	374,000
La Toma to Dolores	175,100
Ledesma to Embarcacion	3,374,301
Cejas to Antilla	3,861,474
Bandera to the Chaco	200,000
Bracho to Leales, and Rosario de Lerma to Rio Blanco	740,214
Unforeseen and incidental expenses	1,600,000
Return of guarantees	1,200,000
Renewal of permanent ways, purchase of rolling stock, provision of water, extension of workshops, and telegraphs	7,490,557
Total	30,263,868

The proceeds of the sale of the Andine Railway are to be allotted toward the payment of the works enumerated in the above list.

EXPORTS, FIRST ELEVEN MONTHS OF 1907.

The principal exports from the Argentine Republic during the first eleven months of the year 1907 were as follows, as compared with those of the same period of 1906:

Articles.		1907.	1906.
Dry ox hides	number	2,068,715	2,614,568
Salt ox hides	do	1,475,537	1,506,046
Dry horse hides	do	92,974	164,590
Salt horse hides	do	34,494	18,613
Sheepskins	bales	54,125	51,706
Hair	do	4,604	4,445
Tallow	pipes	25,774	19,193
Tallow	casks	79,297	63,121
Goatskins	bales	2,196	8,737
Wool	do	324,654	317,489
Wheat	tons	2,616,876	2,216,333
Maize	do	1,211,452	2,247,112
Linseed	do	770,763	495,957
Flour	do	116,450	114,845
Bran	do	174,228	158,101
Pollards	bags	26,553	59,316
Oil-seed cake	do	165,296	185,359
Hay	bales	743,132	1,382,842
Quebracho	tons	293,441	256,822
Quebracho extract	do	51,115	55,070
Butter	cases	91,710	143,412
Careasses, mutton	number	2,685,256	2,751,797
Beef	quarters	1,601,837	1,855,667
Oats	tons	141,872	49,120

MUNICIPAL BUDGET OF BUENOS AIRES FOR 1908.

The municipal budget of Buenos Aires for the year 1908 was approved on the 31st of December, 1907, the amount appropriated for expenditures being 25,396,965 *pesos*, distributed as follows: Salaries, 8,974,760 *pesos*; subsidies, 1,167,200 *pesos;* service of debt, 2,552,918 *pesos;* general expenditures, 7,665,000 *pesos;* Municipal Commission, 212,560 *pesos*, and extraordinary appropriation, 4,838,207 *pesos*. The increase in expenditures over 1907 is 1,600,000 *pesos*, but in said year 800,000 *pesos* were paid in salaries that did not appear in the budget, so the increase is only actually one-half of the former sum. The estimate of revenues has been figured at 24,946,850 *pesos*, and adding to this the receipts from extraordinary sources, placed at 2,289,794 *pesos*, the total revenue for 1908 is given at 27,226,644 *pesos*, representing a surplus of 1,829,679 *pesos*.

BOLIVIA.

TIN SUPPLY DURING 1907.

Figures issued by the New York Metal Exchange showing the condition of the tin market during 1907 place Bolivia in the second place as the source of the world's supply for the year.

In a total of 92,290 tons received in Europe and America the supplies were made up of 52,500 tons from the Straits, 15,300 tons from Bolivia, 10,890 tons from Banka sales, 6,350 tons from Australia, 2,150 tons from Billiton sales, and 4,900 tons from Cornwall. Receipts from Bolivia in 1906 amounted to 16,380 tons.

The total consumption of Europe and America was 93,198 tons, of which the United States consumption was 36,917. The London deliveries were 16,697; the Continent of Europe, 21,984; the Cornwall production—which was not shipped to the United States—was consumed in Europe, estimated at 3,400 tons. The Bolivian shipments delivered in Europe amounted to 14,200 tons as compared with 13,380 in 1906.

RUBBER IN THE PROVINCE OF LARECAJA.

In the luxuriant forests that cover the valleys and ravines of the large Conzata, Camata, Mapiri, Tipuani, Mariapu, Challana, and other less important rivers of Bolivia are found a number of trees, shrubs, and several species of brambles that produce different kinds of rubber.

The principal species of these rubber-producing plants is the *hevea brasilensis*, which yields the best quality of rubber known to commerce at the present time, and the greater number of these trees is found on the banks of the aforementioned rivers and in the

adjacent lowlands. The other species of rubber-producing plants of this region have not yet been exploited, due as much to the fact that the quality of the rubber obtained therefrom is not well known in commerce as to the great scarcity of labor in this part of Bolivia.

The number of rubber trees varies greatly in the different rubber-producing centers. In some regions as many as one hundred trees are found to the hectare, while in other places it is difficult to encounter a dozen rubber trees to the hectare. The largest number of the *hevea brasilensis* grows on the slopes of the mountain ranges that receive the direct rays of the morning sun.

The center of the rubber industry in the part of Bolivia referred to is Sorata, the capital of the province of Larecaja. This town has a population of about 2,000 inhabitants and is situated at the foot of the majestic Illimani, one of the highest snowcapped peaks of the Andes range. Sorata is on the line of the commercial route to northwestern Bolivia, and is a progressive and enterprising town in which living expenses are relatively cheap. It is a center for the contracting of laborers for the gathering of rubber, Bolivian bark, coffee, etc., and for the distribution of provisions and merchandise to the inhabitants of the nearby valleys. The town is distant from four to ten days, by mule or pack animal, from the rubber plantations or zones.

The rubber gatherers are furnished the necessary tools, which they must return on the expiriation of their contract, and are paid from 65 to 75 *bolivianos* per 100 pounds of rubber delivered at the office of the rubber plantation in the zone in which they work. At the present price of rubber in Europe a quintal of rubber in Sorata is worth about 180 *bolivianos*.

The valleys and lowlands in which the rubber plantations of the province of Larecaja are situated are capable of being greatly developed. All that is needed is capital and labor with which to exploit the natural wealth of the soil. To illustrate the fertility of the soil in the rubber-producing districts of Bolivia it is sufficient to say that the heavy logs placed upon the ground and upon which the palm-covered houses are built, in the course of time take root, sprout, grow and cover with green leaves these picturesque abodes.

BRAZIL.

BUDGET LAW FOR 1908.

The "*Diario Official*" of January 1, 1908, publishes the Budget Law of the United States of Brazil for the fiscal year 1908, as approved by the Brazilian Congress, in which the expenditures for the year are fixed at 329,470,857 *milreis* paper ($108,725,382), and 65,625,605 *milreis* gold ($35,437,826.70), making a total of $144,163,208.70. The

general revenue is estimated at 75,279,380 *milreis* gold ($40,650,865), and 258,979,900 *milreis* paper ($85,463,367), while the revenue to be applied to special purposes is estimated at 16,214,333 *milreis* gold ($8,755,739.82), and 12,237,500 *milreis* paper ($4,038,375), a total of $138,908,346.82. The following are the sources of the revenue estimated:

	Gold.	National paper.
	Milreis.	*Milreis.*
Import duties	72,100,000	126,550,000
Light-house dues	300,000	
Wharf dues	150,000	10,000
Additional tax of 10 per cent on the clearance of goods free from duty		280,000
20 per cent of the export duties of the acre territory		13,000,000
Internal revenues	1,514,666	70,994,000
Excise taxes		38,155,000
Extraordinary revenues	1,214,714	10,090,000
Paper-money redemption fund		3,507,500
Paper-money guarantee fund	9,704,333	
Sinking fund for redemption of railway bonds	160,000	2,000,000
Amortization of internal loans		3,030,000
Port improvement fund	6,350,000	3,700,000

The expenditures are distributed as follows:

	Gold.	National paper.
	Milreis.	*Milreis.*
Department of Justice and the Interior	10,700,000	35,267,250
Department of Foreign Relations	2,496,499	1,809,800
Navy Department	8,541,662	36,006,256
War Department	110,000	59,817,173
Department of Industry, Ways, and Public Works	9,155,561	88,223,188
Treasury Department	29,186,849	89,848,818

The President of the Republic is authorized to issue, in anticipation of the revenue, Treasury notes to the amount of 25,000,000 *milreis*, to be redeemed before the close of the year.

Exemption from import duties is granted to the following articles:

1. Agricultural implements and machinery destined to the manufacture and treatment of agricultural products, also apparatus for the manufacture of dairy products imported direct by agriculturists of their respective companies, and machinery and apparatus for the equipment of establishments for the manufacture of *xarque* (dried meat), of fertilizers, and of cellulose and paper from the pulp of the sugar cane, subject to the clearance tax of 5 per cent;

2. Drugs and instruments imported for the use of associations or leagues formed to combat tuberculosis;

3. Seeds and specimens of fodder plants employed for the improvement of cattle, horses, mules, sheep and hogs;

4. Silkworm eggs, swarms of pure-blooded bees and their hives; also apparatus used in bee culture and the receptacles used for bee products, when imported by professionals;

5. Material imported for the construction of central sugar mills, also for the construction and extension of railways and port works

executed by private concession, being subject to 5 per cent clearance tax;

6. Stamped tin plates and their accessories for the manufacture of tins for butter, lard, bacon, sweets and meats, when imported directly by the producers of these articles, subject to a clearance tax of 5 per cent;

7. Material imported by companies or individuals who propose to undertake the economic cultivation of coffee, cacao, tobacco, cotton, sugar cane, rice, barley, alfalfa, wheat and animal and vegetable fibers for textiles, and establish central factories, suitably equipped, for their treatment. The President of the Republic shall also use his influence with the Federal railway companies and the navigation companies subsidized by the State, for the purpose of obtaining a reasonable reduction in the transportation rates on the products of such establishments;

8. All machinery and apparatus imported by the States, municipalities, and private parties for silk factories, provided that in the spinning and weaving only cocoons of national production are used;

9. At the request of the governments of States, municipalities, and of the Federal District, exemption from import duties shall be granted to material imported by them to be used in the construction of sanitation and improvement works, whether executed direct by the State or by concession to private persons, subject to the clearance duty of 5 per cent; material for waterworks; metallic material for sewage systems; material for paving streets, including stone-breaking machinery and the respective motors and macadamizing rollers; material for port and bar improvements; for the construction of furnaces for the incineration of garbage, bridges, lighting service, railways and electric tramways, including the material destined to the generation of motive power for the same; material imported for the use of correctional colonies and prisons; animals and material destined for the police force and fire brigade; material destined for laboratories; school furniture and material; material for the pilot service and, finally, anything of which the governments of the States, of the municipalities, and of the Federal District may have immediate need or use.

Material imported by the Federal Union for works under its jurisdiction shall also be admitted free of duty;

10. Pipes and other ceramic material required for sewers in the States of Bahia, Ceara, Maranhao, Pernambuco, Santa Catharina, Amazonas, Rio Grande do Sul, Parana, in the city of Nitheroy, State of Rio de Janeiro, and in the capitals of the States of Parahyba and Espirito Santo;

11. Machinery of all kinds for raising water, including the respective motor, vanes, well pumps, pumps, pipes, and other accessories

destined for the irrigation works in the municipal districts of Ceara and of other States which suffer from drought. The same privilege may be granted to any person who may import such articles, on his own account and for his use, in the above-mentioned States;

In this case the request for exemption from duties, including the clearance tax, will be made to the Minister of the Treasury by the municipal intendants;

12. Motors, carburetors, stoves, chafing-dishes, lamps, and any other utensils which use alcohol as fuel, either in its pure form or carbureted or denatured, being subject to a clearance duty of 10 per cent;

13. Animals destined for the zoological gardens and those imported for zoological and scientific expositions;

Sole paragraph. The animals mentioned in this number after death shall be sent to the museum situated in the vicinity of the garden or locality of the exposition;

14. Objects imported by the State governments for the national colonies and the civilization of the Indians;

15. Agricultural machinery, apparatus, and implements destined for experimental stations established by the States;

16. Saucers of baked clay used as flying targets (clay pigeons) and glass balls, imported by sportsmen's clubs, also loaded cartridges, subject to the clearance tax of 2 per cent;

17. Casks and new, unmounted barrels, imported by agricultural companies or producers for national wine;

18. Machinery destined for the establishment of a factory of enameled iron, imported by the firm Barros, Krueger & Co., of Sao Paulo;

19. Material for waterworks, sewerage, and lighting, imported by the concessionaire of these services in the city of Victoria, State of Espirito Santo;

Article 3 of the law No. 1452 of December 30, 1905, continues in force with the following modifications:

In addition to the articles specified in Article 2, paragraph 33, of the preliminary provisions of the tariff, smooth wire, whether galvanized or not, No. 7 for fences and No. 14 to wrap cotton, fodder, and other agricultural products, wire to support grape vines, the following articles shall pay only 2 per cent clearance duties:

(1) Agricultural engines; (2) rubber valves for air pumps, or other apparatus of any form or description; (3) copper or brass wire cloth, pasteboard, or leather cones for turbines and component parts of diffusion batteries; (4) iron or brass wire brushes, or scrapers for cleaning pipes; (5) manometers for determining steam pressure or vacuum, temperature indicators; (6) tubes of copper, iron, or brass for boilers, concentrators, and evaporators; (7) mills for breaking and

crushing sugar; (8) screens and stands as well as crossbars for furnaces; (9) pans, mills, and gearings, with their accessories; (10) power and transmission apparatus, including pulleys, shafts, cranks, axle journals, couplings clutches, pins, rings, and suspension collars; (11) rails with all their accessories, such as clamps, fish plates, screws, switches, counter rails, junction rails, switch points, and apparatus for operating the same; (12) locomotives and cars with their accessories; (13) stills and distilling columns with their accessories; (14) molds, filters, crystallizers for purifying and refining sugar, and special lime for the manufacture of sugar; (15) pumps of iron or other metal for liquids or pulps of all kinds or for hot or cold water supply; (16) glasses and glass tubes for evaporating and condensing apparatus, to indicate the height of water or other liquid in boilers or other apparatus; (17) barbed wire and oval wire measuring 18 by 16 and 19 by 17, including the sheaves of iron or steel and their respective winders; (18) alcohol and denaturing and carbureting substances; (19) hogsheads of tinned iron for transporting alcohol, and also apparatus used for the industrial application of alcohol; (20) tools, hoes, and scythes for agricultural use. The above-mentioned machinery, apparatus, and articles are exempted from duties when imported by agricultural syndicates or directly by agriculturists, managers, or agricultural companies, owners of stock farms, and also when imported by State and municipal governments.

CONTINUANCE OF TARIFF CONCESSIONS FOR UNITED STATES PRODUCTS.

The Brazilian Congress on January 11, 1908, voted for a continuance throughout 1908 of the 20 per cent reduction allowed on certain specified imports of United States origin in accordance with act of June 30, 1906.

The articles affected by the concession were noted in the issue of the MONTHLY BULLETIN for February, 1907, and are as follows:

Tariff No.		Rate of duty in *milreis*.[a]	
		General rate.	Rate on American products.
Ex. 97	Flour of wheat....kilo..	0.025	0.020
Ex. 58	Milk, condensed....do....	.500	.400
Ex. 1033	Manufactures of india rubber, vulcanized or not:		
	Basins and other articles for domestic use, funnels, capsules, and bottles....kilo..	2.600	2.080
	Canes, whips, and the like....do....	5.000	4.000
	Tobacco pouches, mouthpieces, and cases for match boxes..do....	4.000	3.200
	Dolls, toys, and the like....do....	3.500	2.800
	Buttons of all kinds....do....	4.000	3.200
	Footwear....do....	3.000	2.400
	Packing for machinery....do....	1.000	.800
	Combs, rulers, and penholders....do....	4.000	3.200
	Fans....each..	3.000	2.400

[a] The value of a gold *milreis* is $0.546; that of a paper *milreis*, about $0.30. The duty on all the articles given herewith is levied 35 per cent in gold and 65 per cent in paper.

Tariff No.		Rate of duty in *milreis*. General rate.	Rate of duty in *milreis*. Rate on American products.
Ex. 1033	Manufactures of india rubber, vulcanized or not—Continued.		
	Belts, suspenders, garters, cords, braids—		
	Covered with pure silk or with silk mixed with some other material ..... kilo..	30.000	24.000
	Covered with any other material ..... do....	7.000	5.600
	Dental rubber ..... do....	3.200	2.560
	Bracelets, earrings, medallions, and other ornaments ..... do....	10.000	8.000
	Stems, tubes, and stalks for flowers ..... do....	7.000	5.600
	Combined with tissues of cotton, wool, or linen—		
	In the piece or in patterns ..... do....	4.000	3.200
	In articles not specially mentioned ..... do....	7.000	5.600
	Combined with tissues of pure or mixed silk—		
	In the piece or in patterns ..... do....	7.000	5.600
	In articles not specially mentioned ..... do....	15.000	12.000
	Hose, threads, sheets, and plates ..... do....	1.200	9.600
	Mats ..... do....	1.300	1.040
	Articles not specially mentioned ..... per cent ad valorem..	50	40
801	Watches and clocks:		
	Watches—		
	With simple works—		
	Of gold ..... each..	10.000	8,000
	Of silver, plain, gilt, or oxidized ..... do....	4.000	3.200
	Of copper, plated with gold ..... do....	4.000	3.200
	Of other metals ..... do....	2.000	1.800
	Chronographs, chronometers, repeaters, stop-watches, and the like—		
	Of gold ..... each..	30.000	24.000
	Of silver, plain, gilt, or oxidized ..... do....	8.000	6.400
	Of copper, plated with gold ..... do....	8.000	6.400
	Of other metals ..... do....	4.000	3.200
	Set with precious stones ..... per cent ad valorem..	20	16
	Wall clocks—		
	In wooden cases, measuring up to 65 centimeters in length at its longest extension ..... each..	5.000	4.000
	In wooden cases, measuring from 65 to 100 centimeters in length ..... each..	6.000	4.800
	In wooden cases, measuring more than 100 centimeters .. do....	8.000	6.400
	Table clocks—		
	In wooden cases, measuring up to 65 centimeters at the largest extension ..... each..	4.000	3.200
	In wooden cases, measuring more than 65 centimeters .. do....	6.000	4.800
	In cases of bronze, bronzed or gilt metal, marble, alabaster, etc ..... per cent ad valorem..	50	40
	Marine chronometers, suspended ..... each..	70.000	56.000
	Marine, ordinary, suspended and without a pendulum ..... do....	3.000	2.400
	Not specially mentioned ..... per cent ad valorem..	50	40
	NOTE 109a.—In measuring the length of the cases of wall and table clocks the ornaments are not to be included.		
Ex. 173	Inks and colors:		
	For marking linen ..... kilo..	3.000	2.400
	For drawing—		
	In boxes ..... do....	4.000	3.200
	In shells ..... do....	30.000	24.000
	In powder, paste, or cakes ..... do....	4.000	3.200
	Water colors of all kinds ..... do....	.080	.064
	Prepared with oil and the like—		
	For printing, lithographing, house painting, etc ..... do....	.100	.008
	Fine, in tubes or cylinders of metal and the like ..... do....	4.000	3.200
	NOTE 19a.—In the weight of the boxes containing colors for drawing are included all the accessories contained therein.		
175	Varnishes:		
	Of tar ..... kilo..	.500	.400
	Not specially mentioned ..... do....	1.000	.800
Ex. 1009	Typewriters, linotypes, and cash registers:		
	With keyboards ..... each..	30.000	24.000
	Without keyboards ..... do....	5.000	4.000
Ex. 1037	Ice boxes ..... kilo..	.250	.200
965	Pianos:		
	Square or upright ..... each..	270.000	216.000
	Demigrand ..... do....	300.000	240.000
	Grand ..... do....	430.000	344.000
	Harmonichords ..... do....	430.000	344.000
983	Scales:		
	Balances with pans, plain or common—		
	Entirely of iron, or with the beam of this metal and the pans of wood ..... kilo..	1.000	.800
	Of copper or its alloys ..... do....	2.000	1.600

Tariff No.		Rate of duty in *milreis.* General rate.	Rate of duty in *milreis.* Rate on American products.
983	Scales—Continued.		
	Platform scales of iron, of all sizes—		
	With a capacity of up to 100 kilos.....each..	26.000	20.800
	With a capacity of from 100 to 200 kilos.....do....	40.000	32.000
	With a capacity of from 200 to 500 kilos.....do....	60.000	48.000
	With a capacity of from 500 to 1,000 kilos.....do....	88.000	70.400
	With a capacity of from 1,000 to 2,000 kilos.....do....	146.000	116.800
	With a capacity of from 2,000 to 5,000 kilos.....do....	160.000	128.000
	With a capacity of more than 5,000 kilos.....do....	320.000	356.000
	Platform scales with a platform of wood, with or without iron frames, and steelyards, pay only half of the duty on platform scales entirely of iron.		
	Counter scales of whatever form, with base or pedestal of any kind—		
	Up to 40 centimeters in length.....each..	6.000	4.800
	From 40 to 60 centimeters in length.....do....	12.000	9.600
	From 60 to 80 centimeters in length.....do....	27.000	21.600
	More than 80 centimeters in length.....do....	40.000	32.000
	Assay scales—		
	Common, with pendulum or column, with or without cases .....kilo..	7.000	5.600
	Of precision, or any other kind.....per cent ad valorem..	50	40
	Hydrostatic, for use in physics.....do....	50	40
	Automatic, for weighing coffee, grain, etc.....do....	15	12
	Spring scales—		
	With tubes, suspension, with or without pans.....kilo..	2.800	2.240
	With stands of iron or marble, with only one pan.....do....	1.200	.960
	Not specially mentioned.....per cent ad valorem..	50	40
Ex. 1008	Wind mills.....do....	15	12

CUSTOMS RECEIPTS AT RIO DE JANEIRO, 1907.

Receipts at the custom-house of Rio de Janeiro for the calendar year 1907 are given as 38,281:708$719 gold and 59,919:950$672 paper, whose combined value is equivalent to a little over $40,000,000.

RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION IN 1907.

According to a report presented to the Minister of Public Works, the total increase in railway construction throughout Brazil during 1907, amounted to 701 kilometers, about 436½ miles. Added to the 10,891 miles reported in operation in the Republic at the opening of 1906, during which year but 42 miles were added, the total length of railways in operation at the close of 1907 was 11,369 miles.

ISSUE OF NEW SILVER MONEY.

A decree has been signed by the President of Brazil authorizing the Minister of Finance to open a credit of 3,130:853$880 gold (about $1,660,000) to meet the expenses of coining new silver money.

FOREIGN COMMERCE, TEN MONTHS OF 1907.

For the ten months of 1907 ending with October, total imports at Brazilian ports aggregated 528,425:602$ (about $165,000,000) as compared with 388,793:093$ ($130,000,000) in the same period of 1906.

Exports for the ten months of 1907 amounted in value to 744,153:755$ ($230,000,000) as against 596,715:989$ ($200,000,000) in the ten months of the preceding year.

Imports are thus shown to have increased $35,000,000 and exports $30,000,000 in the later period, while the balance of trade in favor of the Republic was $65,000,000.

Specie shipments in the ten months of 1907 were $20,000,000 as compared with $6,000,000 in the same months of the preceding year.

Customs revenues for the ten months under comparison show an increase of 22 per cent for 1907.

TRADE MOVEMENT AT THE PORT OF SANTOS, FIRST NINE MONTHS OF 1907.

According to official statistics the imports at the port of Santos during the first nine months of 1907 were valued at 93,876,142 *milreis* ($30,979,126), of which 87,061,319 *milreis* were subjected to import duties, and 6,814,823 *milreis* entered free of duties. The revenues collected by the custom-house at Santos during the first nine months of 1907 amounted to 39,449,269 *milreis* (approximately $13,018,258).

BOUNDARY TREATY WITH COLOMBIA.

The following treaty has been ratified by the Colombian and Brazilian Governments.

The Republic of the United States of Brazil and the Republic of Colombia, desiring to establish on a firm and permanent basis their ancient relations of peace and friendship, to remove all grounds of future disagreement, and facilitate the development of their relations of commerce and good neighborship, have agreed to conclude the following treaty, taking into consideration, for an amicable agreement, the state of their respective possessions and rights, and to that effect have named their Plenipotentiaries, to wit:

His Excellency the President of the Republic of the United States of Brazil, Dr. Enéas Martins, Minister Resident on a Special Mission to Colombia, and His Excellency the President of the Republic of Colombia, Gen. Alfredo Vasquez Cobo, Minister of Foreign Relations, who, after having exchanged their full powers, which were found in good and due form, have agreed on the following articles:

Article I. The boundary line between Brazil and Colombia, from Pedra de Cucuhy on the Negro River to the mouth of the Apaporis River, on the left bank of the Japura or Caqueta River, shall be established as follows:

1. From the island of S. Jose, opposite Pedra de Cucuhy, the line shall run west till it meets the right bank of the Negro River, which

it shall cut at latitude 1° 13′ 51.76″ N. and longitude 23° 39′ 11.51″ west of Rio de Janeiro, or 7° 16′ 25.9″ east of Bogota, proceeding from this point in a straight line until it meets the headwaters of the small stream Macacuny or Macapury, an affluent of the right bank of the Negro or Guainia, and lying wholly within Colombian territory.

2. From the headwaters of the Macacuny or Macapury the boundary line shall continue along the watershed until it passes between the headwaters of the brook Japery, an affluent of the Xie River, and the headwaters of the Lomo River, an affluent of the Guainia River, at a point determined by the coordinates of latitude 2° 1′ 26.65″ N. and longitude 24° 26′ 38.58″ west of Rio de Janeiro, or 6° 28′ 59.8″ east of Bogota.

3. The boundary line shall continue westward along the highest elevation of land which separates the waters flowing to the north from those flowing to the south until it meets Cerro Caparro, from which point it shall continue to run along the highest elevation of land separating the waters flowing into the Guainia from those which find their way to the Cuiary or Iquiary, as far as the main source of the Memachi River, an affluent of the Naquieni River, which in its turn is an affluent of the Guainia.

4. From the main source of the Memachi, in latitude 2° 1′ 27.03″ N. and longitude 25° 4′ 22.63″ west of the meridian of Rio de Janeiro or 5° 51′ 15.8″ east of Bogota, the boundary line shall follow the highest elevation of land to the principal headwaters of the affluent of the Cuiary or Iquiary, which is nearest the headwaters of the Memachi, continuing to follow the course of said affluent to its confluence with the aforesaid Cuiary or Iquiary.

5. From this point the boundary line shall follow the course of said Cuiary to the point at which it receives the Pegua River, its tributary on the left bank, and from the junction of the Pegua and Cuiary the line shall continue westward along the parallel of the junction of these rivers till it meets the meridian of the confluence of the Kerary with the Uaupes.

6. Upon meeting the meridian of the confluence of the Kerary or Cairary River with the Uaupes River the boundary line shall descend this meridian to the said confluence; then it shall continue along the thalweg of the Uaupes River to the mouth of the Capury River, its tributary on the right bank, near Jauarite Falls.

7. From the mouth of the said Capury River the boundary line shall continue westward along the thalweg of the same Capury to its source, which is approximately in longitude 69° 30′ west of Greenwich, descending along the meridian of this source to the Taraira, and following the thalweg of the said Taraira to its mouth in the Apaporis; thence along the thalweg of the Apaporis to its mouth in

the Japura or Caqueta River, which is the point where the section of the boundary line established by the present treaty terminates, the section between Pedra Cucuhy and the mouth of the Apaporis being thus defined. The remaining section of the line in dispute between the two countries will be the subject for later negotiations, in case Colombia wins in her boundary questions with Peru and Ecuador.

ART. II. A Mixed Commission, appointed by the two Governments within one year from the date of the exchange of the ratifications, shall proceed to the demarcation of the boundary line as established by the present treaty.

1. Special protocols will be concluded providing for the organization and instructions of this Mixed Commission, which shall begin its work within eight months after its appointment.

2. It is hereby stipulated that in the demarcation of the remaining section of the line, wherever it may be necessary to run it, when there are no elevations in the land, parallels of latitude and meridian lines shall be used in preference to any oblique lines.

ART. III. All controversies that may arise during the demarcation shall be submitted by the respective Commissioners to the High Contracting Parties for their amicable decision, without any interruption in the work of demarcation.

In case the two Governments are unable to reach a direct agreement, they hereby declare their purpose of having recourse to arbitration.

ART. IV. The two High Contracting Parties shall conclude within the term of twelve months a treaty of commerce and navigation, based upon the principle of the most ample freedom of transit and river navigation to both countries, a right which they shall enjoy perpetually from the date of the approval of the present treaty, throughout the course of the rivers which have their source in or flow through the region marked by the boundary line as herein defined, on condition of their respecting the fiscal and police regulations established or which may hereafter be established, in the territory of each. It is stipulated that the vessels, merchandise and citizens of Brazil in Colombia shall not be subject to higher charges or greater formalities than those which are now or may hereafter be imposed on Colombian vessels, merchandise and citizens; and reciprocally, that the vessels, merchandise and citizens of Colombia in Brazil shall not be subject to higher charges or greater formalities than those which are now or may hereafter be imposed on Brazilian vessels, merchandise and citizens.

The vessels of Colombia engaged in the navigation of these rivers shall have free passage by the river Amazon to the ocean. The fiscal and police regulations shall be as favorable as possible to navigation and commerce, and shall be as nearly as possible uniform in the two

countries. It is understood and declared, however, that this stipulation does not include the navigation from port to port in the same country or the coastwise trade by the rivers, which shall continue subject, in each of the two States, to its respective laws.

ART. V. The present treaty, after it has been duly approved by the Republic of the United States of Brazil and the Republic of Colombia, shall be ratified by the respective Governments, and the ratifications shall be exchanged in the city of Bogota or in Rio de Janeiro as soon as possible.

In faith whereof, we, the Plenipotentiaries of the two Republics, sign the present treaty and thereto affix our seals.

Done in the city of Bogota, on the twenty-fourth day of April, in the year one thousand nine hundred and seven.

(Signed) ENÉAS MARTINS.
(Signed) ALFREDO VASQUEZ COBO.

A MODUS VIVENDI AGREEMENT BETWEEN BRAZIL AND COLOMBIA RELATING TO THE PUTUMAYO.

For the purpose of developing navigation and the trade relations between their respective countries, by the Ica or Putumayo River, the Governments of Brazil and of Colombia have agreed to conclude a modus vivendi, and to this effect the Minister Resident of Brazil on a Special Mission to Colombia, Dr. ENÉAS MARTINS, and the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Colombia, Gen. ALFREDO VASQUEZ COBO, met in the Foreign Office of Colombia, and, having been duly authorized by their respective Governments, negotiated and agreed upon the following:

ARTICLE I. The merchant vessels of Brazil and of Colombia shall have free passage in the ports which Brazil and Colombia have opened or may hereafter open in the Ica or Putumayo River, and shall be exempt from all taxes or charges, except light-house or similar taxes which are levied in aid of navigation, on condition of their respecting the fiscal and police regulations established by the competent authorities of each of the two countries for their respective territories.

The vessels of Colombia engaged in the navigation of the Putumayo shall have free passage by the Amazon River to the ocean.

ART. II. While the present agreement continues in force, the clearance of articles imported into Colombia by the Amazon and the Ica or Putumayo rivers shall be made in the custom-houses of Manaos or Belem, as entrepôts under the laws of Brazil.

The exports of Colombian products shall also be made at the ame custom-houses, provided said products are duly accompanied by certificates of export furnished by the competent Colombian authorities in the place of origin and viséed by the Brazilian fiscal agent on the Ica.

ART. III. Brazil shall permit—a previous notice of the number being given—the passage by the Amazon and the Ica of Colombian war vessels which are proceding to the waters of the Putumayo under Colombian jurisdiction; and reciprocally, Colombia shall permit Brazilian war vessels to navigate the waters of the Putumayo under its jurisdiction.

These vessels shall be subject to the fiscal and police regulations in case they shall receive merchandise in the respective ports.

ART. IV. The present modus vivendi shall go into effect immediately and shall continue in force until it shall be denounced or modified by mutual agreement between the two Governments.

In testimony of which they sign the present agreement and thereto affix their seals.

"Done in the city of Bogota, on the twenty-fourth day of April, in the year one thousand nine hundred and seven.

(Signed) ENÉAS MARTINS.
(Signed) ALFREDO VASQUEZ COBO.

PROTOCOL SUPPLEMENTARY TO THE MODUS VIVENDI.

At a conference held in the Department of Foreign Relations of Colombia, the Minister Resident of Brazil on a Special Mission to Colombia, Dr. ENÉAS MARTINS, the Brazilian Plenipotentiary, and the Minister of Foreign Relations of Colombia, Gen. ALFREDO VASQUEZ COBO, Colombian Plenipotentiary, signatories of the modus vivendi agreement regarding the Ica or Putumayo River concluded on April 24, 1907, agreed, in the name of their respective Governments and as an integral part of the same, that the said modus vivendi regarding the Ica or Putumayo River shall be null and void in case the treaty signed on the same day, establishing the section of the boundary line between Pedra de Cucuhy and the mouth of the Apaporis in the Japurá or Caquetá, fails to be approved or ratified.

In testimony whereof, they have signed the present protocol in duplicate and thereto affixed their respective seals.

Done in the city of Bogota, on the twenty-fourth day of April, in the year one thousand nine hundred and seven.

(Signed) ENÉAS MARTINS.
(Signed) ALFREDO VASQUEZ COBO.

PROPAGANDA FOR NATIVE PRODUCTS.

Article 16 of the Project of Law No. 401, passed by the Brazilian Congress on December 10, 1907, authorizes the Ministry of Industry and Public Works to expend $4,000,000 ($1,350,000) for the opening of the necessary credits or the making of the necessary credit opera-

tions in order to develop in foreign countries the consumption of the different agricultural and mineral products of Brazil, granting premiums and subsidies therefor.

The subsidies will principally be granted to firms and private individuals

(*a*) Who, in the localities where there are firms already dealing in raw coffee, establish on their own account roasting plants where ground coffee may be sold by retail or already prepared, as in the restaurants of Rio de Janeiro;

(*b*) Who establish in these localities or in their vicinity premises where coffee may be sold ground or already prepared, the same having been bought at the roasting establishments above mentioned;

(*c*) Who establish in localities where there are no firms dealing in this product, principally in places with a small population, premises with a small roasting plant where coffee may be sold already ground or prepared.

The same system of subsidies will also be followed with regard to establishments which exhibit samples of other Brazilian products, such as mate, cocoa, sugar, tobacco and manufactures thereof, accompanied with descriptive matter treating of their origin, price, etc.

Premiums will be awarded to those firms or individuals who at the end of each half year shall exhibit evidences satisfactory to the Government of having advanced the consumption of the products in reference.

The Government is also authorized to establish and maintain the propaganda for native products in connection with Brazilian consulates abroad and also to create a department of inspection under the respective Consuls, who shall report progress in the matter to the Ministry of Industry and Public Works at the end of each half year.

Besides the means indicated in the foregoing paragraphs, the Government may employ others always of a commercial nature, such as granting a maximum reduction of 20 per cent in the import duties on articles not produced in Brazil and coming from countries which, by commercial agreements or treaties grant for a period of not less than three years a suitable exemption or reduction in their tariffs to Brazilian products.

The mineral wealth of the country is also to be the subject of similar propaganda, under Government direction.

RATIFICATION OF THE CONVENTION FOR THE CREATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION OF JURISTS.

The "*Diario Official*" of December 29, 1907, publishes the decree of President AFFONSO PENNA of December 27, proclaiming the Convention for the Creation of an International Commission of Jurists, signed at the Third Pan-American Conference.

VIEW OF SMOKING ROOM OF STEAMSHIP VERDI, ONE OF THREE NEW VESSELS OF LAMPORT & HOLT LINE BETWEEN NEW YORK, RIO, AND BUENOS AIRES.

REGULATIONS GOVERNING FOOD AND BEVERAGE PRESERVATIVES.

The following information respecting food and beverage preservatives, etc., the use of which is condemned by Brazilian legislation, is contained in a report made to the British Foreign Office by the Minister of Great Britian at Rio de Janeiro:

Wines, lard, and all other alimentary products condemned by the National Laboratory will be destroyed and a fine of 500 *milreis* (about $165) will be imposed on the importers.

Wines and alimentary products are considered harmful to public health and condemned when they contain boric or salicylic acid, inferior alcohol, free mineral acids—sulphuric, sulphurous, nitric or hydrochloric—sulphites, alum, alkaline fluorates and fluorsilicates, saccharine, salts of strontium, lead, zinc, tin, arsenic, antimony, sulphate of potash, to the extent of 2 grams per liter of wine (except in case of wines of an alcoholic strength exceeding 20 degrees, for which the limit is 4 grams per liter); in beers, hop substitutes, such as absinthe, bitter quassia, colchicum, picrotorina, colocynth, nux vomica, picric acid, aloes, and essences prepared with fatty ethers, coloring matters derived from coal tar or with basis of lead, mercury, copper, arsenic, antimony, barium, or any other substance which is or may in future be recognized as harmful to health.

In any case, the importation of artificial wines is prohibited, even when they do not contain harmful substances, and they will be destroyed if not reexported within a period to be fixed by the customs inspector.

Cognacs, whiskies, rums, gins, and other imported alcoholic beverages, natural or imitation, will be condemned as harmful to health when they contain more than 3 grams (in round numbers) of poisonous impurities, aldehydes, fatty ethers, *furfurol*, superior alcohol, acetic acid, etc., per 1,000 grams of alcohol at 100°, or 1.50 grams of the same per 1,000 grams of alcohol at 50°.

The importation of alcoholic beverages containing absinthe or any other harmful essences is prohibited by the Budget Law dated December 30, 1905.

DIAMOND MINING IN MINAS GERAES.

With the installation of dredging machinery at points along the Jequitinhonha River in the State of Minas Geraes a revolution in the mining industry of the diamond district of Brazil is practically effected which, in the opinion of United States Consul-General GEORGE E. ANDERSON, of Rio de Janeiro, will probably revolutionize the diamond markets of the world.

United States capital has obtained possession of practically all the diamond-bearing territory in the Diamantina country. The success

of the work means that millions of dollars will be spent in Brazilian diamond mining. Work on the mines already done has led to such a demand for improved transportation facilities that a United States engineer has been summoned to take charge of the construction of a highway from the end of the railway at Curalinho to the mining country and United States methods of construction are to be followed.

The city of Diamantina, which is the center of the diamond and gold mining activities for that portion of Brazil, is reached generally by two routes. One is by leaving the railroad at Curvello, Minas Geraes, and taking mule train for the three to four days' trip. This route ranges over some very rough country, including two rivers separated by high ridges, the main ridge reaching well toward 5,000 feet elevation where the trail crosses it. It can only be taken by mules or horses. The other route is by leaving the railroad at Curalinho, farther north than Curvello.

It is stated that the State government of Minas Geraes will extend railroad connections to Diamantina, provided the Federal Government will not do so, but how soon there will be any betterment is doubtful. The cost of transporting machinery and supplies under present conditions is all but prohibitive. The introduction of United States rough-country wagons on the road from Curalinho to the Jequitinhonha River country, by one of the companies installing dredging machinery there, has been so successful as to attract the attention of the State government, and that government at present is making a strong effort to secure the general adoption of these wagons for all such work by the Brazilian population.

There has arisen a demand for United States agricultural machinery for the development of the country to meet the requirements for forage and supplies, and the Government is also seeking United States capital for the construction and operation of a modern meat-packing plant with a view of furnishing supplies for industrial and agricultural colonies which it plans to establish in several portions of the State, especially near the diamond-mining district.

It has been authoritatively established that some of the diamonds originally sold as Indian diamonds came from Brazil. Heretofore practically all of the output of Brazilian diamonds has gone to Europe, chiefly to Paris and London. The shipments to the United States are increasing in number and value, and it is the expectancy of the American interests now investing so heavily in Brazilian diamond properties that they will be able to sell their products direct to American buyers.

It is the understanding in the Diamantina district that the export tax on diamonds, which has heretofore interfered with the sale and shipment of stones, will be modified or removed altogether to the betterment of the trade. The exports of diamonds from Brazil in

1906 amounted to about $310,000, as compared with about $150,000 in 1905, but the figures in neither case even approximate the actual value of stones exported. These figures also include the declared values of black or amorphous diamonds from Bahia, the trade in which is increasing.

STATE OF SÃO PAULO.

The *"Boletim da Directoria de Industria e Commercio,"* of São Paulo, publishes the following statistical data on that State:

The State of São Paulo has an area of about 296,000 square kilometers (118,245.6 square miles) and an estimated population of 2,861,170 inhabitants. The most populous centers are the following:

	Number of inhabitants.		Number of inhabitants.
Capital	274,000	Taubate	38,300
Santos	73,500	Rio Claro	37,500
Campinas	83,000	Araraquara	34,000
S. Carlos do Pinhal	50,000	Guaratingueta	32,000
Ribeirao Preto	56,800	Limeira	32,000
Jahu	49,000	Bragança	42,600
Amparo	32,700	S. João da Boa Vista	37,550
Piracicaba	46,600	S. João do Rio Pardo	33,000

The trade movement of the port of Santos alone amounted in 1906 to 102,659,161 *milreis* ($33,877,523) imports and 308,208,443 *milreis* ($101,708,786) exports.

The area under cultivation during the year 1904–5 was 602,805.63 acres.

The principal agricultural products of the State are coffee, cotton, corn, rice, beans, tobacco, grapes, potatoes, sugar cane, rum, wine, flour, milk, butter, cheese, lard, wool, wax, and honey.

In 1906, there were 4,028 kilometers (2,502 miles) of railways in operation in the State and 2,527 kilometers (1,570 miles) under construction.

The State has 18 credit institutions, with a total capital of 83,986,650 *mileris* ($27,715,594).

CHILE.

CUSTOMS REVENUES, FIRST ELEVEN MONTHS OF 1907.

During the first eleven months of 1907, the custom-houses of the Republic of Chile collected a total revenue of 107,361,051.19 *pesos* ($35,750,000), which sum, in comparison with that of the same months of 1906, shows an increase of 10,289,371.24 *pesos* ($3,429,000). The revenue for the month of November, 1907, was 6,495,577.06 *pesos* ($2,165,000), showing an increase of 1,028,380.78 *pesos* ($342,000) over the same month of 1906.

CONTRACT FOR THE ARICA-LA PAZ RAILWAY.

United States Consul ALFRED A. WINSLOW, of Valparaiso, reports that the Chilean Government has given the contract for the construction of the Arica-La Paz Railroad to a German bank and a German firm for the sum of £3,000,000, and adds:

"The line will extend from Arica, a northern port of consequence in Chile, to La Paz, the capital of Bolivia, a distance of about 335 miles. The road is to be completed within four years. The Government is to provide the right of way and to admit all material and machinery free that are used in the construction of the road.

"It is understood that the only interest the bank has in the matter is that it takes the Government 5 per cent bonds that are to be issued to pay for the construction of the road. This road is to be built in accordance with the treaty made with Bolivia on March 21, 1905, when Chile took over that portion of Bolivia that bordered on the Pacific Ocean. The completion of this road will mean much for the northern part of Chile and the interior of Bolivia, as it opens up some very rich country."

COLOMBIA.

EXPLOITATION OF VEGETABLE IVORY.

Under date of December 26, 1907, President REYES enacted an important decree by virtue of which the exploitation of vegetable ivory in national forests situated in the valleys of the Rivers Atrato and Leon and on the coast of the Gulf of Uraba may be made by private individuals and companies, without special concessions or permits, under the following conditions: (*a*) Each ton of vegetable ivory shall pay an export tax of $2 gold; (*b*) the payment of said duty shall be made in the respective customs-houses from April 1, 1908.

REGULATIONS FOR PARCELS POST.

The Colombian Government issued, under date of October 19, 1907, the following new customs regulations for merchandise entered through the parcels post:

"By direction of the Minister of the Treasury, liquidation of duties on merchandise arriving per parcels post at Colombian offices shall be as follows: Precious stones of all kinds, jewelry of gold or silver plated with gold, with or without precious stones, and all articles of gold will pay an import duty of 10 per cent *ad valorem*, with a surtax of 10 per cent of the duty for consular charges. Other merchandise introduced by parcels post will pay 6 per cent *ad valorem* in addition to the regular duty fixed by the tariff code, including the surtax of 70 per cent thereon, and a further surtax of 25 per cent for consular fees."

RESTRICTION OF PRESERVED MEAT IMPORTS.

In accordance with a resolution recently passed by the Board of Health of Colombia the importation into the Republic of all kinds of meats, for the preservation of which antiseptics are used, has been prohibited. Meats for consumption in Colombia may be preserved by means of chloride of sodium, nitrate of potash, heat (Appert modified process), or refrigeration.

For which reason the Colombian Consulate at New York has been advised not to certify any invoice on which meats are specified unless the same is accompanied by a bona fide certificate stating clearly that no antiseptics have been used and that the meats have been prepared for export as required by law.

COSTA RICA.

APPRAISEMENT OF PERCUSSION CAPS AND SHOTGUN CARTRIDGES.

By virtue of a decree of President González Víquez, of Costa Rica, dated January 4, 1908, percussion caps and shotgun cartridges shall be appraised in the following manner at ports of entry:

	Per kilogram. *Colon.*
Metal cartridges, unloaded	2.50
Metal cartridges, loaded	.75
Paper cartridges, unloaded	5.00
Paper cartridges, loaded	1.00
Percussion caps	5.00

CUBA.

REPORT OF THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNOR FOR 1907.

The Provisional Governor of Cuba, appointed pursuant to the treaty obligations between Cuba and the United States, made public, on January 12, 1908, his annual report to the Secretary of War of the United States, covering in a comprehensive manner the economic conditions prevailing throughout the Island Republic from the revolution of 1906 to date.

As the exercise of legislative power by the Chief Executive of the Republic is in harmony with the established order prevailing in Cuba, the meetings of Congress were temporarily suspended until the legislative body should have been chosen in accordance with new registration lists as amended by a general census.

On May 8, 1907, a decree was issued making provision for the taking of the census "for electoral purposes and such other purposes as the

statistics are desired to serve." This has been done, and publication of the results will be made as soon as is consistent with accuracy. In consequence of the unavoidable delays entailed by the preparation of electoral lists, the enforcement of certain electoral laws and the organization of such boards as are required by said law, the provincial and municipal elections will presumably not be held before April or May, 1908.

Tested by tangible evidence, the economic situation of the Republic is satisfactory. In October, 1906, it was generally feared that the revolution had destroyed the financial credit of the Island; the long-continued drought was believed to have greatly injured the cane, tobacco, fruit, and vegetable crops; a cyclone devastated the Island during the month and was believed to have completed the total loss of the cane and tobacco crops. Everyone expected the receipts of the customs-houses would diminish and a general fear prevailed that the revenues of the Government would not be sufficient to meet the obligations and current expenses. The outcome was quite the reverse of public expectation. The Island produced more sugar than ever before in its history. The tobacco crop was short, but superior in quality, and commanded the highest price in the history of the industry in Cuba. The fruit and vegetable crops were large and showed a gratifying increase in acreage over previous years, and, although the output was reduced by the drought, the prices secured were high and results gratifying to the producers. The customs receipts were in excess of any preceding year and the condition of the public Treasury continued excellent. Taking into consideration that this showing is for a year immediately following a revolution and cyclone, and includes a period of panic and world-wide disturbance of business and finance, of strikes and lockouts throughout the Island that paralyzed for months the cigar-making and building industries and otherwise interfered with commerce and industrial pursuits, and with low prices for sugar prevailing, some idea is obtained of the wonderful richness and recuperative powers of the Island.

The approximate value of the goods imported during the fiscal year 1906–7 was $96,673,989, which was a decrease of $7,721,603 as compared with the previous fiscal year. Export valuations were $110,764,937, showing an increase of $5,565,622 over 1905–6.

The plan of making the sanitary service a national matter received the hearty approval of the public, it being fully realized that the thorough sanitation of the Island has an important bearing upon its commercial development. The same is true as regards permanent road construction and harbor improvements. The principal products of Cuba, sugar, tobacco, timber, fruits, vegetables, and iron ore, find their way to foreign markets and must be transported from the place of production to the harbors on the coast. There are at least forty

harbors on the Cuban coast that at relatively small expense might be improved sufficiently to permit the entry of ocean-going vessels. At present but six are available and none are adequately equipped for the convenient and rapid handling of commodities. These harbors are reached from the interior by railroads and from along coast by sailing craft. Many portions of the Island are as yet unsupplied with transport facilities and the cost is very great. Orders have been issued to the Department of Public Works to prepare a general plan for a system of macadamized roads, to consist of a highway running east and west through the center of the Island, with branch roads running north and south, terminating at the harbors of the six Provinces into which the Republic is divided. The plans were also to include the equipment of said harbors for handling cargoes with ease and rapidity; the erection of light-houses and the placing of buoys along the coast where needed. Three principal objects were contemplated by these projected improvements—the development of the country, the reduction of economic waste resulting from the difficulties of transportation, and the improvement of the industrial condition by providing employment for a large number of workmen.

The necessity for municipal improvements is urgent, it being estimated that not less than $75,000,000 will be required to provide the municipalities with such improvements as are needed by the inhabitants.

In regard to the sugar situation, Governor Magoon states that Cuba is dependent upon agricultural products—with the exception of forests and iron ore—for the production of wealth. Its principal agricultural product is sugar cane. The cutting, hauling, and grinding season lasts from about the middle of December until the beginning of the rainy season, which usually starts early in May. This season of the year is the period of growth and harvest for tobacco, fruits, and vegetables. The harvests being completed, there is but little to do on the sugar estates and farms, so that about seventy-five per cent of the laborers are thrown out of employment. Practically all the cane cutters are without employment for six months in the year, so that the most important economic question in Cuba is employment for this body of men between seasons.

In 1903 the price of sugar was high and the yield the largest in the history of the Island up to that time. Sugar mills sprang up and cane fields were planted with more attention to early profits than to economical expenditure. Unnecessary credits were tendered and accepted and extravagant expenditures incurred, with inevitable and temporarily disastrous results. Now, however, the money distributed by the Government has been spent, the notes given for money loaned to build mills and plant cane have matured, and the period of liquidation set in more than a year ago. The sugar industry is therefore at

present in a flourishing condition and easily able to meet all the demands of liquidation. The prevalent opinion is that the crop of the present year will be at least 1,150,000 tons, and that, in consequence of a reduced production throughout the world, the price will be higher than that now prevailing.

Reference is made to the desire often expressed by the planters for the establishment of an agricultural bank along the lines of the Mexican Bank, and careful consideration is given to the reasons for and against the project.

The number of claims resulting from the revolution of August, 1906, were 12,057, more than one-half for horses, valued at $1,688,-106.76, on which the Claims Commission allowed $738,428.39. The total cost of the revolution is figured at $8,634,116.64.

REGULATION OF THE PRACTICE OF PHARMACY.

Under date of December 31, 1907, the Provisional Governor of Cuba issued a decree providing that persons who are engaged in the practice of pharmacy without being graduates or doctors of pharmacy duly authorized to practice, and who have had five or more years' experience therein, shall demonstrate their competence to practice the profession before a board of examiners, the formation of which is also provided in the decree. To every candidate passing the examination shall be awarded a certificate of "Practitioner of Pharmacy," by virtue of which he shall be entitled to practice pharmacy in the Island.

The date for the operation of the decree is to be determined later.

HONDURAS.

OPERATION OF THE CEIBA RAILROAD.

In accordance with the contract entered into between the Government of Honduras and the Vaccaro Brothers & Co., of New Orleans, on May 9, 1906, the railroad line on the northern coast of Honduras has been partially constructed and is in operation for 30 miles. The line, which is to run easterly from the Zacate terminal to the port of Ceiba and 10 miles in a westerly direction to the town of San Francisco, provides an outlet for the fruit products of Zacate Valley. During the first year of its operation 1,500,000 bunches of bananas were handled, being shipped by the Vaccaro Independent Steamship Line to New York, New Orleans, and Mobile.

The cost of the road to the present time has been $650,000, and there as yet remain 35 miles to be built to the Bay of Hizapa, at which point a wharf is to be constructed at a cost of $500,000.

The sanitary and productive conditions of the region served are reported as of the highest order, while the cooperation of the Honduran Government in all beneficial measures is assured.

MEXICO.

FOREIGN COMMERCE, FIRST FOUR MONTHS OF 1907–8.

According to figures issued by the statistical division of the Department of Finance and Public Credit of the Mexican Republic, the total value of imports received during the first four months of 1907–8 (July–October, 1907) was 82,798,007.66 *pesos* ($41,399,003.83), as compared with 68,374,700.19 *pesos* ($34,187,350.09) in the same months of the previous year, an increase of 14,423,307.47 *pesos* ($7,211,653.73). In the month of October, 1907, the value of imports was 21,890,617.23 *pesos* ($10,945,308.61), which, in comparison with 18,282,732.61 *pesos* ($9,141,366.30) of the same month of 1906, represents an advance of 3,607,884.62 *pesos* ($1,803,942.31).

The exports were valued at 86,373,450.26 *pesos* ($43,186,725.13), in comparison with 72,768,991.91 *pesos* ($36,384,495.95) during the same period of the fiscal year 1906–7, an increase of 13,604,458.35 *pesos* ($6,802,229.12). The value of products exported during the month of October, 1907, was 21,568,413.86 *pesos* ($10,784,206.93), showing an increase of 2,567,222.69 *pesos* ($1,283,611.34) when compared with 19,001,191.17 *pesos* ($9,500,595.58) for the same month of 1906.

CUSTOMS REVENUES, FIRST HALF OF 1907–8.

Official statistics recently published show that the revenues collected by the various custom-houses of the Republic of Mexico during the first half of the fiscal year 1907–8 (July–December, 1907) were as follows, the figures for the same period of the previous year being also given for purposes of comparison:

	First half of the fiscal year—	
	1907–8.	1906–7.
	Pesos.	*Pesos.*
Import duties	28,323,792.23	24,757,267.08
Export duties	476,195.05	524,240.70
Port dues	691,838.65	519,841.31
Total	29,491,825.93	25,801,349.09

The equivalent of these totals in United States currency is about $14,745,000 and $12,905,000, respectively.

REGISTRY OF BUSINESS TRANSACTIONS IN 1907.

The value of business transactions registered at the office of the Public Registrar (*Registro Público de la Propiedad*) of Mexico during the year 1907 amounted to $448,315,200.57 (national currency), representing 10,204 operations.

More than one-half of the total recorded or $260,817,622.48, was on account of commercial enterprises, organization of new companies,

increased capitalization of existing corporations, and railroad interests.

Transfers of property, made in public documents before a notary, amounted to a total valuation of $67,443,368.94; mortgages and embargoes totaled $98,985,978.16; real estate rentals, which are not the subject of compulsory register, aggregated, as recorded, $13,332,547, while proceedings and decisions delivered by civil judges affected properties with a total value of $8,027,187.84.

PATENTS AND TRADE-MARKS IN 1907.

The transactions of the Bureau of Patents and Trade-marks of the Mexican Republic during 1907 cover patents of invention to the number of 1,241; 946 trade-marks, 27 models and industrial drawings, and 96 advertisements and commercial names.

SISAL HEMP SHIPMENTS IN 1907.

The shipments of sisal hemp from the Yucatan ports of Progreso and Campeche during the year 1907 aggregated 652,188 bales, as compared with 626,785 bales in the preceding year.

Progreso, which is the leading point of export for this article, is credited with 613,747 bales, and Campeche with 2,500 bales.

Of the total quantity shipped, the United States was the leading purchaser, taking 590,923 bales, followed by other countries in the order named:

Country.	Bales.	Country.	Bales.
Canada	45,860	Italy	275
Cuba	8,282	Spain	185
England	4,245	Austria	120
Belgium	1,253	Russia	7
Germany	681	Argentine Republic	4
France	350	Brazil	3

TEHUANTEPEC TRANSIT FOR UNITED STATES MERCHANDISE IN 1907.

The aggregate value of merchandise passing between the eastern and western ports of the United States over the new Tehuantepec trans-Isthmian route was between twenty-five and thirty million dollars during the year 1907. The value of merchandise moving from the eastern ports of the United States across the Tehuantepec route to the Pacific, as shown by the reports to the Bureau of Statistics of the Department of Commerce and Labor, was, in the first quarter of the year, one and one-third million dollars in value; in the second quarter, over four millions; in the third quarter, over four millions, and in the fourth quarter approximately four millions. The eastward movements of merchandise via the Tehuantepec route were

chiefly sugar from the Hawaiian Islands, the shippers of that article from those islands having abandoned the around-the-Horn route and sending via Tehuantepec all of their sugar destined for the eastern coast of the United States. The sugar shipments from the Hawaiian Islands via Tehuantepec to the eastern ports of the United States (chiefly Philadelphia and New York) were, in the first quarter of the year, slightly less than two million dollars; in the second quarter, three and one-half millions; in the third quarter, over five millions, and in the fourth quarter approximately five millions.

The vessels which carry the sugar make a triangular route, passing during the sugar season direct from Hawaii to the western terminus of the railway, and after discharging their cargo pass thence northwardly along the western coast of the United States to San Francisco and in some cases as far north as the Puget Sound ports and thence to Hawaii, where they load again direct for the Tehuantepec port during the sugar season, and at other times for San Francisco, and thence along the coast to the Tehuantepec port. The distance which sugar from Hawaii now travels in reaching New York via the Tehuantepec route is 5,806 miles, against 12,269 miles via the former all-water route around Cape Horn. The opening of this new transcontinental line has contributed to the industries of the United States, not only in supplies of material required in its construction, but also in its daily operation, the railway engines being run with petroleum drawn from the Texas oil fields, though it is expected that this fuel will in the near future be supplied from Mexican oil fields adjacent to the Tehuantepec line. The quantity of freight moved over this new line is estimated at over 600,000 tons in 1907, its first year of operation. The road is tapped by other lines which connect it with Veracruz and the City of Mexico, and thus give it direct rail communication with the railway systems of Mexico and the United States.

All merchandise originating in or leaving any port of the United States and crossing Mexico by the Tehuantepec line is sent across the Isthmus in sealed cars and is readmitted free of duty on reaching any other port of the United States. The Mexican Government maintains a large force at either end of the road to prevent merchandise from the United States, entered for transportation across the Isthmus, being clandestinely carried into Mexico without payment of duty, while the United States Government also maintains an agent at either end of the line to prevent Mexican products being included with those of the United States crossing the Isthmus and thus obtaining admission into this country free of duty as products of the United States.

Modern steel docks at the eastern and western termini permit the transfer by steam and electric power of merchandise from the hold of

the vessel direct to the car standing on the dock alongside the vessel and the retransfer from car to vessel by the same manner. The time occupied in shipment across the Isthmus is less than twenty-four hours, and the entire time occupied in the transfer from the hold of one vessel to that of the other vessel less than forty-eight hours. Regularly established steamship lines now run between Coatzacoalcos at the Gulf end and Philadelphia and New York, and between Salina Cruz at the Pacific end to the western ports of the United States and the Hawaiian Islands, while various lines connecting with foreign countries also touch at the eastern and western termini.

This sudden and large increase in the interchanges between Atlantic and Pacific ports via the narrow strip of land which separates those oceans is chiefly due to the opening, early in 1907, of the Tehuantepec Railway, which connects the waters of those two oceans by a land haul of but 190 miles, its termini being Coatzacoalcos on the Atlantic or Gulf of Mexico side and Salina Cruz on the Pacific side. This enterprise of connecting the two oceans by this short land haul of less than 200 miles was planned before the construction of the earliest transcontinental railway in the United States, the first concession for the road having been granted by the Mexican Government in 1857. This and subsequent concessions having failed to produce results, the Mexican Government in 1882 itself took up the work, making a series of contracts under which a road was completed from ocean to ocean in 1894; but owing to defective conditions its partial reconstruction became necessary, and this reconstruction was accomplished through a partnership arrangement entered into by the Mexican Government with a British firm, the road having been actually opened for business in January, 1907.

APPROPRIATIONS FOR PUBLIC WORKS.

In addition to expenditures previously authorized for public improvements throughout the Republic of Mexico, an Executive decree was promulgated on December 17, 1907, providing for the outlay of 10,690,000 *pesos* (about $5,345,000) on the following enterprises:

For port works at Salina Cruz and Coatzacoalcos, in addition to sums previously authorized, 5,190,000 *pesos* ($2,585,000); for the erection of an asylum, 1,500,000 *pesos* ($750,000); for the erection of a college, 1,000,000 *pesos* ($500,000); for water supply in the City of Mexico, in addition to previous authorizations, 3,000,000 *pesos* ($1,500,000).

COTTON GROWING AND MANUFACTURE.

According to figures recently made public, the apportionment of revenue tax which will be levied upon the various cotton yarn and

textile factories throughout the Republic for the half year ending June, 1908, will amount in bulk to 1,280,608 Mexican *pesos* (approximately $640,304 United States currency).

United States Consul-General A. L. M. GOTTSCHALK, of Mexico City, reports that one of the most productive and at the same time best developed of the Mexican industries is the manufacture of cotton yarns and cloth.

The yield in the Laguna district is only 50 per cent of the season of 1906–7, and the total supply of domestic cotton will not be sufficient to fill the requirements of Mexican mills for the 1908 season until the new crop comes on in the fall.

There will probably be required between 25,000 and 30,000 bales before September 1, 1908, depending upon consumption by mills. This will probably be somewhat less than the preceding season, due to two facts: The unsatisfactory labor conditions in mills, resulting in shorter time and less output for machines, and a further reduction in raw cotton used, owing to the slightly increased proportion of finer yarns, which reduces consumption per spindle. Consumption in 1906–7 was about 155,000 bales of 500 pounds each.

The actual conditions at the present time are just the reverse of a year ago. There was then the largest crop on record, about 170,000 bales at a conservative estimate, which led to an exportation of over 50,000 bales to Europe.

SILVER BASIS OF THE CUSTOMS AND STAMP TAXES.

The usual monthly circular issued by the Department of Finance of the Republic of Mexico announces that the legal price per kilogram of pure silver during the month of February, 1908, is $35.90, Mexican currency, according to calculations provided for in the decree of March 25, 1905. This price will be the basis of the stamp and customs duties when silver is used throughout the Republic.

CONSULAR REPORTS.

The Mexican consul at New York advises that in November, 1907, ten vessels proceeding from Mexican ports arrived at the port of New York laden with 59,263 packages of merchandise. During the same month fourteen vessels cleared from that port destined to Mexico carrying 122,255 packages of merchandise.

In December of the same year thirteen vessels proceeding from Mexican ports entered the port of New York bringing 116,185 packages of merchandise. In the same month, fifteen vessels cleared from New York with 117,229 packages of merchandise consigned to Mexican ports.

The products coming from Mexico consisted of fibers, hides, coffee, rubber, ores, and miscellaneous articles, while those shipped to Mexico were made up largely of machinery and manufactured articles.

The Mexican consul at Philadelphia advises that during the months of October, November, and December, 1907, coal, petroleum, and powder were shipped from Philadelphia to Mexican ports valued at $130,987.18, $91,935.68, and $97,956.12, respectively.

The Mexican consul at Nogales, Arizona, advises that the exports of Mexican products to the United States through the port of Nogales aggregated a value of $154,537 in November, 1907. The imports of Mexico from the United States in November, 1907, through the same port amounted to $569,233.72, of which $68,601.86 originated in countries other than the United States.

NICARAGUA.

NEW AGRICULTURAL LAW.

For the purpose of promoting by all possible means the agriculture and stock-raising industry of the Republic, considered as the principal resource of the country, President José Santos Zelaya, of Nicaragua, under date of November 22, 1907, enacted a law providing for the organization of a Superior Council, boards, and committees of Agriculture and Stock Raising. The Superior Council of Agriculture and Stock Raising shall be composed of five members, and it shall reside at Managua, the capital of the Republic. Its chairman shall be the Minister of Promotion. There shall be in each department and in the Territories of San Juan del Norte and Cabo de Gracias á Dios a board of agriculture and stock-raising, and committees in the towns and villages. The boards and the commitees shall be under the supervision of the Superior Council.

The law in reference has 29 sections, and is divided into 6 titles, the first of which is on the organization mentioned; the second, on the powers and duties of the Superior Council, the boards, and the committees; the third, on the duties of the boards; the fourth, on those of the committees; the fifth, on the powers and duties of the members and officers of said bodies, and the sixth contains general provisions. The Superior Council, through the Nicaraguan consuls, shall make an active propaganda abroad for native agricultural products.

BLUEFIELDS WHARF TAX.

According to a Presidential decree issued on November 5, 1907, from December 1, 1907, a "wharf tax" is to be collected on all passengers, baggage, and freight arriving or departing from the custom-

house wharf at the "bluff" in Bluefields. Bananas and government mail are the only exceptions to the following tariff, which is given in *soles*, now quoted at 42 cents gold:

	Soles.
Package weighing 100 kilos or less	0.12
Each additional 100 kilos or fraction thereof	.12
Lumber, per 1,000 feet	1.50
Each passenger	.25
Baggage, each piece	.20
Children under 12 years	Free.

The reason given for levying the above tax is to procure funds for the purpose of repairing the wharf, which has been in a dangerous condition for a long time.

RUBBER CONCESSION AND INDUSTRY.

According to information furnished by United States Consul FREDERICK M. RYDER, of San Juan del Norte, the Nicaraguan Government has conceded the sole right to gather and export rubber from the public domain of the districts of San Juan del Norte and Siquia to Generals VALLE and ASCENSION FLORES for a period of ten years, dating from June 1, 1908, at an annual rental of $3,000 in gold. He further advises that a joint-stock corporation has been formed which will eventually control the output of all wild rubber in the Government forests of Nicaragua, as it will ultimately absorb the concession above noted.

At present the enterprise is a consolidation of two concessions granted by the Government as owning the rubber on the domain of the Republic which was formerly considered the property of the individual or rubber cutter discovering and locating the trees. The new corporation will be known as the "Atlantic Industrial Company," with headquarters at Managua, and will have a capital of $300,000 gold, divided into 3,000 shares of $100 each.

One of the leases transferred to the company was purchased from a party who received the original concession from the Government, agreeing to pay therefor an annual rental of $140 for a period of ten years. The concessionaries were privileged to license all rubber cutters, and in addition to levy an export tax on all shipments not to exceed 10 cents per pound, which has been collected at the port of Bluefields ever since the lease became operative.

All of the rubber produced in the territory embraced in this lease is exported through the consular district of San Juan del Norte with the exception of a small quantity shipped by the way of Cape Gracias a Dios. In 1905, invoices were issued covering the export of 449,609 pounds; in 1906, for 408,329 pounds, and for 1907, the amount probably was not more than 350,000 pounds, owing to the damage caused by the hurricane in the fall of 1906. A fair estimate of the

production in this concession is 500,000 pounds a year, so that the export tax would yield the lessees $50,000 gold annually. Besides, the licensing of cutters and the furnishing of provisions and outfits would amount to as much more. Consequently this concession will produce a gross income of $100,000, and in return for these valuable privileges the Government receives from the company $140 a year. Another concession will probably not yield as much, yet the surrounding conditions indicate an abundant supply, and the income will probably reach $50,000 annually.

PANAMA.

FISCAL REVENUES IN 1907.

Fiscal revenues received by the Panama Government during 1907 aggregated $2,439,301.68, or $5,436.05 in excess of the budget estimate. The respective sources of these revenues in 1906 and 1907, as far as published, were as follows:

From—	1906.	1907.
Merchandise taxed 10 per cent	$593,657.20	$757,984.90
Imports of—		
Liquors	317,078.48	438,299.10
Tobacco and cigarettes	45,847.70	205,478.83
Salt	4,664.81	7,669.40
Matches	11,990.68	19,563.38
Coffee	11,535.47	27,412.76
Opium		3,183.55
Port dues from steamship companies		10,875.57
Distillation of liquors		25,441.87
Slaughter of live stock		127,593.77
Postal service		63,420.95
Patents and trade-marks		1,795.00
Tax on mines		2,629.65
Stamp tax		51,197.44
Registration fees		6,078.17
Export duties		43,083.79
Real and personal property		39,152.42
Lotteries		63,000.00
Mother-of-pearl fisheries		600.00
Government properties		9,718.02
Consular fees		89,518.13
Light-houses		3,530.63
Telegraph service		5,955.22
Miscellaneous		22,118.23
Parcels post		8,971.02
Exchange		5,597.50
Retail liquor sales		84,329.50
Coastal rights		425.00
Cattle imports		16,841.50
Public market		2,252.02
Burials		1,084.36
Interest on Government moneys		294,000.00
Total		2,439,301.68

PANAMA TRANSIT FOR UNITED STATES MERCHANDISE IN 1907.

The value of merchandise originating in United States ports and shipped over the Panama Railway to other parts of the United States or foreign countries amounted during the year 1907 to between twelve

and fifteen million dollars. Of this, about four million dollars' worth was merchandise sent from New York to the western ports of the United States and about seven million dollars' worth from New York to Central and South American countries fronting on the Pacific, while between two and three million dollars' worth was merchandise sent from San Francisco to the eastern ports of the United States. The shipments via Panama from New York to the west coast ports of the United States were distributed to San Diego, Santa Barbara, Los Angeles, Oakland, San Francisco, Portland, Seattle, and Spokane, and those to foreign countries by this route included Chile, Peru, Ecuador, Bolivia, Colombia, Panama, Costa Rica, Honduras, Nicaragua, Guatemala, Mexico, and the British Columbia ports of Canada. These include practically all classes of merchandise, but more especially meats, flour, cotton goods, mineral oil, mining machinery, manufactures of iron and steel, and miscellaneous manufactures. The movements from San Francisco via Panama to the eastern ports were sent to Tampa, Philadelphia, New York, New Haven, and Boston, and include wines, pig lead, quicksilver, hides and skins, and miscellaneous merchandise.

PARAGUAY.

OPERATION OF THE PARAGUAY CENTRAL RAILROAD.

The only railroad operating in Paraguay at present is the Paraguay Central Railroad, a single track line of 5 feet 6 inches gauge, running from Asuncion, southeasterly to Pirapo, about 155 miles. An extension of 60 or 70 miles has recently been commenced, which, when completed, will bring the road to Villa Encarnación, on the Parana. Opposite Villa Encarnación is Posadas, the terminus of the Argentine Northeastern Railroad, a standard gauge line running north from Buenos Aires. When the Paraguay Central connects ultimately with the Argentine Northeastern, at Posadas, it will bring Asuncion within 50 hours of Buenos Aires, by an all-rail route. All traffic, however, will be subjected to two transfers—the first ferry being at Villa Encarnación, and the second from Ibicui, in the Province of Entre Rios, to Zacate, in the Province of Buenos Aires. According to the United States Consul at Asuncion, undoubtedly the completion of this all-rail route to Buenos Aires will be of great importance to Paraguay, but it will not supply the needs that exist for the direct easterly outlet to the Atlantic, nor would the completion of this route affect the workings or traffic of the line to the coast.

The movement of traffic on the Paraguay Central Railroad is steadily increasing, the freight in 1905–6 amounting to 102,422 tons, against

69,869 tons in 1904–5. The passenger traffic for both years was as follows:

Passengers.	1904–5.	1905–6.	Increase.
First-class	56,305	107,369	51,064
Second-class	74,454	119,944	45,490
Third-class	559,131	744,208	185,077
Total	689,890	971,521	281,631

The total receipts from passenger and freight traffic during the year were $347,740, an increase of $79,058, or 29.43 per cent on the previous year. The expenses were $228,001, an increase of 43.55 per cent, which is explained by extensive repairs to bridges and culverts, the renewal of sleepers, of which over 19,000 were used, heavy repairs to locomotives and rolling stock, and also to the increased cost of labor in the Republic. The net receipts were $119,729, an increase of 9.01 per cent, but it was necessary, owing to the delay in effecting a settlement with the Government, once again to employ the net receipts in the purchase of plant and materials for the betterment and special renewals of the rolling stock and property.

The passenger mileage amounted to 17,168,000, which was, however, a decrease of 6.18 per cent as against the year previous. This was due in a great measure to the stoppage of traffic for seventeen days in April, due to a strike. The passenger movement is phenomenal for a small railway, and shows signs of continual expansion. The local train system is being extended to Paraguari, a station for a large district, 45 miles from Asuncion. The rolling stock consists of 14 locomotives, 55 coaches, and 171 cargo cars. The length of the line is 155 miles. Its extension of 70 miles to Encarnacion, to meet the Argentine Northeastern Railway, which is being extended to Posadas, will be beneficial, and will join Paraguay by railway with Buenos Aires.

An agreement ratified by the Paraguayan Congress on July 20, 1907, provides: (*a*) All outstanding claims between the company and the Government have been abandoned; (*b*) the Government surrenders the issue of £210,000 ($1,021,965) preferred shares; (*c*) the company is free to fix its own tariff so long as not more than 6 per cent per annum is paid on the shares; (*d*) the company acquires freedom from all taxation, municipal or otherwise, for a period of 25 years; (*e*) the company undertakes to extend the line to Encarnacion within six years, a distance of about 70 miles.

RUBBER GROWING IN THE REPUBLIC.

Reporting on the rubber resources of Paraguay, United States Consul Edward J. Norton writes from Asuncion that during 1907 something over 2,000 kilos were exported, principally to France, these

shipments representing the result of recent efforts made to develop the rubber industry in the Republic. Lack of capital has been, and is still, an obstacle which has obliged those interested in the production of rubber to work on a very limited scale.

The principal rubber-producing trees and plants of Paraguay are: (a) A species of the Hancornia speciosa, called by the natives "mangá icé" or "mangaba;" (b) the "manihot-glaziovii" of the mandioca species, and (c) many varieties of "lianas" or vines which grow in the forests of the Paraguayan Chaco.

The "mangá icé" is abundant in the northern section of Paraguay and is also found in the southern and central parts of the Brazilian State of Matto Grosso. It grows wild in open spots and in the clearings around the edges of the forests (but never in the forests themselves) and in the sandy soil so widely distributed over Paraguay. The tree attains a height of from 15 to 20 feet and bears a small fruit annually. This fruit contains the seed, and attempts at cultivation have shown that the entire fruit must be planted to insure germination. The wild growths of the mangá icé are widely distributed, but experiments have demonstrated that the tree responds quickly to cultivation. Ground is prepared for a nursery in which the fruit-bearing seeds are planted and where the young shoots may be protected and shaded.

The trees grow rapidly and are ready for tapping in from five to seven years. Some of the largest trees are reported to be from 5 to 6 feet in circumference. In the experimental nurseries started some time ago 60 per cent of the seed germinated and produced healthy plants. Experiments made as to the yield of rubber from the plants give an average of about one-half pound of gum from the first tapping. Subsequent tappings give better results and large trees have yielded over 4 pounds of rubber. There are immense numbers of the mangá icé in a wild state, but their growth is widely scattered and makes the cost of production rather expensive, more especially as labor in Paraguay is scarce. It has been estimated that 300 trees may be planted to each hectare (2.471 acres), and that upon reaching maturity the trees may be tapped every three years. This latter is a debated and rather undetermined point, as some claim that the tree may be tapped with safety every year.

The quality of rubber derived from the mangá icé is not of the best quality, but this may be due in a measure to the rather crude manner in which the sap is coagulated and the lack of capital to properly handle and prepare the product. Coagulation is now effected by placing the sap—a white liquid of about the consistency of cream—in water to which a small quantity of alum has been added.

The rubber thus produced has been sold to exporters in Asuncion for shipment to Europe at prices ranging from $1.20 to $1.50 gold per kilo.

The second class of rubber-producing trees of Paraguay is the "manihot-glaziovii" of the mandioca species. This tree, it is said, is also found in Brazil around Ceara, and is also reported as being cultivated successfully in Ceylon and in the Kongo Free State. It is a tree of rapid growth, and in Paraguay is found in the Chaco, or western portion of the Republic, where its growth is not confined to any particular soil, as it is found in swampy land as well as in the semiarid sections of the northern Chaco. Little is actually known here of the value of the product of the "manihot," as nurseries set out some time ago were abandoned on account of lack of capital, but the rubber of this tree is said to be much superior in quality to that of the "mangá icé," as some of it has sold for $2.30 gold per kilo.

The sap, also white, coagulates upon exposure to the air and the trees are said to grow to a height of about 40 feet, and first tappings from young trees yield about one-half pound of rubber. The production increases yearly until a maximum yield of from 10 to 12 pounds is secured.

The "manihot-glaziovii" is reported to be the most valuable of the rubber-producing trees of Paraguay. The different trees mentioned may be grown or cultivated successfully in the same plantation, although the young shoots of the manihot must be fenced to protect them from animals, who are very fond of the tender shoots.

The last group of rubber-producing plants found in Paraguay, the "lianas" or vines, are reported to yield considerable sap, and from the majority of these plants the gum may be extracted by the use of machinery, probably a process similar to that of treating the "guayule" shrub of Mexico. However, no reliable information is available at this writing regarding the value of these vines.

PERU.

THE CERRO DE PASCO MINES IN 1907.

In a report covering mining development in Peru, Mr. Charles M. Pepper, Special Agent of the United States Department of Commerce and Labor, states that during 1907 the Cerro de Pasco Company shipped 20,152,000 pounds of copper to the United States, most of it via Panama. In December the quantity was 2,500,000 pounds, the highest of any month during the year. While freight facilities to the coast have to be taken into consideration, and more particularly the congested condition and the insufficient facilities afforded commerce at Callao, it is assumed that this quantity will be maintained as the monthly average during 1908, and the total shipments for the year will amount to 30,000,000 pounds, or 15,000 tons.

From this quantity a gradual increase to 50,000,000, and later to 75,000,000 pounds, is predicted, independent production supplementing it. The Peruvian prediction is that the ultimate copper output of Cerro de Pasco and the adjoining districts will be 50,000 tons.

Cerro de Pasco is the most important center of the many extensive American mining interests in Peru. During the last seven or eight years a group of capitalists in the United States by their investments have restored the prestige which the region gained in Spanish colonial times as one of the world's greatest sources of mineral wealth. The difference is that in the former era the mines were exploited for the precious metals, principally silver, of which 450,000,000 ounces were taken from the time of the discovery up to the middle of the last century, while the present development is of the copper deposits with silver as a by-product. The American investments were made when the fall in silver rendered the operation of the mines for that ore alone unprofitable, and after investigation had confirmed the existence of copper deposits which assured this district as one of the world's leading sources of supply for an indefinite period.

The investment of actual capital up to 1905 by the Cerro de Pasco Company has been, according to the representative of the company, $17,500,000 gold, including large amounts paid for machinery bought in the United States. The whole Cerro de Pasco district is testimony to the supremacy of American mining machinery.

The heaviest expenditure of the company has been in the construction of the smelter and the accessory works, including coke ovens. The smelter is located 8 miles from the town of Cerro and half that distance from the beds of limestone which are used for slaking. Though the coal mines are 25 miles away, since the railway has been opened there has been no difficulty in assembling the copper ore, the coal for coking, and the lime for slaking. Some 2,500 persons are now employed at the smelter, and the colony of Americans is considerably larger than at Cerro. For their accommodation commodious buildings have been erected with detached cottages for families, while a clubhouse also has been provided. Improved living quarters for the native laborers are being constructed.

The town of Cerro de Pasco is in the heart of the district. In addition to its importance as a mining center it derives some reputation from being the highest town in the world. The altitude is 14,200 feet. Morococha, in the neighboring district, where a group of mines are operated, is 15,000 feet above the sea level, but it has only a few score scattered inhabitants, while Cerro de Pasco is an active little Andean city, with a permanent population of 10,000, which is easily swelled to 15,000 in times of active mining exploitation. The

majority of the inhabitants are natives of the sierra and are "cholos," or of mixed Spanish and Indian blood. They are the chief dependence for labor of all kinds both in and out of the mines. There is, however, a European colony which includes Austrian Slavs, Poles, Bohemians, Greeks, Spaniards, and Italians. The trade of the district, both wholesale and retail, is in the hands of the Austrian Slavs, some of whom maintain extensive warehouses and import their goods directly from abroad, while others are supplied from Lima. The Americans include the superintendents and managers of the mines, foremen, mechanics, railway employees, and clerical employees. The Cerro de Pasco Mining Company has provided comfortable living quarters in a central administration building and in separate buildings and cottages for them. The railway yards and shops are located in the basin of a lagoon which was drained by the company and reclaimed. The entire settlement is called La Esperanza, to distinguish it from the town proper.

Cerro de Pasco is 221 miles from the seacoast at Callao, the line of communication being over the famous Central Railway through the Galera tunnel, 3 miles above sea level, to Oroya, a distance of 138 miles, and then 83 miles to Cerro over the railroad which was built by the company, and is owned and operated by it. This road, after leaving Oroya, the altitude of which is 12,179 feet, passes through the canyon to the pampa of Junin and then ascends to Cerro, the maximum grade being 2½ per cent. A branch of the line, 25 miles in length, lately has been opened from a point near Cerro to the company's coal mines at Gollarisquizga. The main line and the branch are of standard gauge.

SHIPMENTS OF VICUÑA HIDES AND WOOL.

According to figures recently issued, the exports of vicuña wool and hides from Peru during the last five years reported were as follows:

Year.	Wool.		Hides.	
	Pounds.	*Value.*	*Pounds.*	*Value.*
1902	4,078	$1,773	2,694	$660
1903	7,864	3,421	3,832	1,866
1904	8,618	3,739	4,066	2,193
1905	3,984	4,502	1,334	1,078
1906	11,102	12,092	3,334	1,297
Total	35,646	25,527	15,260	7,094

During the past two years the wool, which is a fine article of a reddish brown color, has been much in demand in England at from $1 to $1.25 per pound, but the supply is rapidly diminishing. The hides with the wool on are also in demand for rugs and are valued at from $15 to $50 for each rug, according to the care in selection.

United States Consul-General SAMUEL M. TAYLOR, in a report from Callao, says that the vicuña, one of the most useful members of the Peruvian fauna, is in danger of disappearing from the elevated plains of the Andes, and this seems to be so much realized that steps are to be taken to prevent their total extinction.

THE PERUVIAN CORPORATION IN 1906–7.

The Directors of the Peruvian Corporation, Limited, announce that the accounts for the year ended June 30, 1907, show a profit of £256,345 ($1,281,725), after deducting the usual charges and interest on the debentures of 4 per cent. The Board proposes (1) to place the sum of £50,000 ($250,000) to reserve, making a total of £525,000 ($2,625,000) at the credit of that account; (2) to make up the debenture interest for the year to 6 per cent (by payment of 2 per cent additional interest on April 1, 1908); to pay, on January 21, 1908, a dividend of 1½ per cent on the preference stock of the corporation, absorbing £111,692 ($558,460); to write off the sum of £4,710 ($23,550) on colonization account and £26,871 ($134,355) in respect of claims for railway services canceled under the recent arrangement with the Peruvian Government, and set aside £4,000 ($20,000) toward the insurance fund on the Lake steamers. These provisions will absorb the above-mentioned profit of £256,345 and, in addition, the sum of £14,929 ($70,645) from the balance of net revenue shown in the previous year's accounts.

SALVADOR.

EXPORTS DURING THE FIRST HALF OF 1907.

According to the latest official statistics received from the Republic of Salvador, the products exported during the first half of the year 1907 had a total weight of 50,079,904 pounds, and were valued at 11,285,531.03 *pesos* ($5,642,700). The principal article of export was coffee, the shipments of which were valued at 8,739,259.50 *pesos* ($4,369,600), followed by sugar and balm. The principal countries of destination were: United States, 3,543,438.83 *pesos* ($1,771,700); France, 2,339,233.03 *pesos* ($1,169,600); Germany, 1,802,289.13 *pesos* ($901,000), and Italy, 1,479,214.01 *pesos* ($739,600).

PORT MOVEMENT, FIRST HALF OF 1907.

According to the latest statistics received from Salvador, the port movement of the Republic during the first half of 1907 was as follows: Entries—216 steamers and 75 sailing vessels, with 13,313 crew members, 15,648 tons of cargo, 1,747 passengers, and 392 boxes, 2,559

sacks, and 337 packages of mail matter; clearances—the same number of steamers and sailing vessels, with 343,116 parcels of native products, 1,551 passengers, and 376 boxes, 844 sacks, and 491 packages of mail matter.

CUSTOMS REVENUES, FIRST HALF OF 1907.

The total amount of revenues collected by custom-houses of the Republic of Salvador during the first half of 1907 was 2,880,388.44 *pesos* ($1,440,194.22), of which 2,280,144.82 *pesos* ($1,140,072.41) were from import duties, 564,586.22 *pesos* ($282,293.11) from export duties, and the rest from miscellaneous receipts. A comparison of the grand total with that of the same period of 1906 shows a decrease against 1907 of 354,382.25 *pesos* ($177,191.12).

UNITED STATES.

TRADE WITH LATIN AMERICA IN 1907.

The total volume of trade between the United States and Latin America during the calendar year 1907 was represented by $558,279,201, composed of exports $240,553,068 and imports $317,726,133, as compared with $521,311,077 in 1906 and $493,669,785 in 1905. An increase of $36,968,124 is thus noted in the latest period recorded, as compared with the preceding twelve months.

Trade values with Central America during 1907 aggregated $45,087,355 against $38,690,379 in 1906, showing an increase of $6,396,976. Mexican and United States trade values for the two periods amounted to $124,698,413 and $114,273,188, respectively, the increase for 1907 being $10,425,225.

Trade between the United States and Cuba was represented by $144,973,116 in 1907 against $131,544,878 in the preceding year, thus showing an advance of $13,428,238 in the later year. The small increase of $63,518 is noted in the trade with Haiti, the figures for 1907 and 1906 being $4,366,273 and $4,302,755, respectively. Conditions were somewhat better with regard to the Dominican Republic, the increase in 1907 over 1906 amounting to $124,976, the valuations for the two periods being $5,860,693 and $5,735,717.

All of South America (including the Guianas) figures for $233,293,351 on the trade lists of the United States in 1907 against $226,764,160 in 1906, the increase of $6,529,191 being largely accounted for by increased exports to Brazil, which took United States products valued at $4,452,191 more than in 1906.

The distribution of imports and exports by countries and articles are detailed in the following tables, from data prepared by the Bureau of Statistics of the United States:

Countries.	Imports.		Exports.	
	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.
Central American States:	*Dollars.*	*Dollars.*	*Dollars.*	*Dollars.*
Costa Rica	4,715,510	5,281,877	2,473,281	2,840,539
Guatemala	2,822,020	4,243,795	2,980,072	2,310,593
Honduras	2,204,702	2,477,586	1,896,204	1,809,030
Nicaragua	1,331,172	1,202,878	2,041,231	1,790,598
Panama	1,448,689	1,680,953	14,239,471	18,665,323
Salvador	1,216,262	1,191,701	1,321,765	1,592,473
Total Central American States	13,738,355	16,078,790	24,952,024	29,008,565
Mexico	51,999,267	57,005,795	62,273,921	67,692,618
Cuba	85,055,234	92,429,267	46,489,644	52,543,849
Haiti	1,036,330	1,220,420	3,266,425	3,145,853
Dominican Republic	3,464,425	3,310,918	2,271,292	2,549.774
SOUTH AMERICA.				
Argentine Republic	18,291,368	16,171,120	33,271,569	30,111,672
Bolivia			242,616	1,502,622
Brazil	86,476,959	85,436,070	16,547,375	21,002,566
Chile	18,037,058	17,944,580	9,392,453	11,439,821
Colombia	6,669,461	6,466,429	2,961,671	3,169,382
Ecuador	3,281,684	2,835,395	1,834,756	1,884,107
Falkland Islands		16,916	514	606
Guiana:				
British	1,367,718	350,792	1,936,826	1,826,146
Dutch	598,187	834,721	569,122	623,056
French	41,732	27,128	290,402	262,580
Paraguay	1,200	7,261	110,496	170,893
Peru	2,933,508	7,098,298	5,193,455	6,876,217
Uruguay	2,453,013	2,902,085	3,160,606	3,971,001
Venezuela	7,789,893	7,590,139	3,310,518	2,771,739
Total South America	147,941,781	147,680.943	78,822,370	85,612,408

IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE.

Articles and countries.	December—		12 months ending December—	
	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.
Cocoa (*Cacao; coco ou cacao; cacao*):	*Dollars.*	*Dollars.*	*Dollars.*	*Dollars.*
Central America	5,074	7,346	27,300	51,294
Brazil	251,335	282,926	2,169,326	2,898,275
Other South America	186,223	111,208	2,160,279	2,580,222
Coffee (*Café; café; café*):				
Central America	198,885	99,944	6,087,872	7,673,095
Mexico	69,762	66,362	2,134,152	1,732,808
Brazil	9,041,313	3,456,913	51,569,010	49,998,615
Other South America	580,832	640,837	9,412,226	9,180,989
Copper (*Cobre; cobre; cuivre*):				
Mexico	1,470,675	778,451	18,250,442	17,881,815
Cuba	4,497	13,015	73,330	133,141
South America	41,973	164,110	736,490	1,412,361
Fibers:				
Cotton unmanufactured (*Algodón en rama; algodão em rama; coton non manufacturé*):				
South America	77,059	93,364	578,531	631,240
Ixtle or Tampico fiber (*Ixtle; ixtle; ixtle*):				
Mexico	128,166	43,046	1,327,352	1,131,567
Sisal grass (*Henequen; henequen; henequen*):				
Mexico	1,803,387	601,845	14,486,569	14,153,047
Fruits:				
Bananas (*Plátanos; bananas; bananes*):				
Central America	342,017	424,308	5,485,593	5,660,813
Cuba	5,734		1,208,713	1,097,815
South America		24,833	309,429	353,145
Oranges (*Naranjas; laranjas; oranges*):				
Mexico	5,712	2,705	37,148	63,703
Cuba	1,052	1,400	9,801	5,677

IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	December—		12 months ending December—	
	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.
Furs and fur skins (*Pieles finas; pelles finas; peaux*):	*Dollars.*	*Dollars.*	*Dollars.*	*Dollars.*
South America	9,365	2,662	299,745	178,195
Goatskins (*Pieles de cabra; pelles; peaux de chèvres*):				
Mexico	332,628	162,284	2,769,813	2,443,187
Brazil	165,086	191,905	1,741,492	1,659,115
Other South America	171,327	113,269	2,407,406	1,571,782
Hides of cattle (*Cueros vacunos; couros de gado; cuirs de bétail*):				
Mexico	176,922	46,690	1,540,526	1,363,024
Cuba	31,555	12,522	164,244	241,869
Brazil	20,530	----	214,256	237,153
Other South America	573,846	372,988	8,562,401	8,545,380
India rubber, crude (*Goma elástica; borracha cruda; caoutchouc*):				
Central America	60,949	48,251	773,101	779,618
Mexico	153,565	227,512	1,527,085	3,812,311
Brazil	3,869,999	1,415,544	28,317,263	27,898,929
Other South America	171,664	98,361	1,339,743	1,267,774
Iron ore (*Mineral de hierro; mineral de ferro; mineral de fer*):				
Cuba	133,713	198,514	2,178,997	2,522,710
Lead ore (*Plomo; chumbo; plomb*):				
Mexico	341,748	333,992	2,873,825	3,139,253
Sugar, not above No. 16 Dutch standard (*Azúcar, inferior al No. 16 del modelo holandes; assucar nao superior ao No. 16 de padrao hollandez; sucre, pas audessus du type hollandais No. 16*):				
Mexico	763	836	79,345	1,023,574
Cuba	279,691	659,073	56,624,164	67,197,688
Brazil	458,331	----	965,933	278,491
Other South America	530,575	70,337	2,267,594	782,877
Tobacco and manufactures (*Tabaco y sus manufacturas; tabaco e sus manufacturas; Tabac et ces manufactures*):				
Cuba	1,726,686	1,316,694	19,678,637	16,154,830
Wood, mahogany (*Caoba; mogno; acajou*):				
Central America	20,517	55,687	469,037	685,753
Mexico	54,970	109,511	509,836	781,070
Cuba	2,246	5,028	169,721	184,774
Wool (*Lana; lã; laine*):				
South America—				
Class 1 (clothing)	91,481	28,514	6,621,288	5,044,526
Class 2 (combing)	----	29,142	301,195	644,116
Class 3 (carpet)	134	----	759,322	410,085

EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE.

Agricultural implements (*Instrumentos agricolas; instrumentos de agricultura; machines agricoles*):				
Mexico	29,602	38,865	529,572	519,829
Cuba	3,750	9,991	114,113	139,115
Argentine Republic	501,985	407,161	4,703,622	3,558,759
Brazil	10,343	28,612	103,950	202,096
Chile	25,905	1,914	430,749	433,332
Other South America	18,746	27,236	287,429	215,531
Animals:				
Cattle (*Ganado vacuno; gado; bétail*):				
Mexico	65,146	123,945	840,365	849,492
Cuba	12,810	6,365	1,003,842	239,758
South America	8,374	3,859	78,358	55,963
Hogs (*Cerdos; porcos; porcs*):				
Mexico	21,844	16,354	226,063	182,566
South America	142	32	2,825	8,556
Horses (*Caballos; cavallos; chevaux*):				
Mexico	42,348	26,620	363,709	306,337
Sheep (*Ovejas; ovelhas; brebis*):				
Mexico	1,120	1,068	101,965	79,587

EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	December—		12 months ending December—	
	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.
Books, maps, etc. (*Libros, mapas, etc.; livros, mappas, etc.; livres, mappes, etc.*):	*Dollars.*	*Dollars.*	*Dollars.*	*Dollars.*
Central America	4,366	11,168	61,511	73,882
Mexico	28,684	31,488	268,791	347,176
Cuba	24,708	14,697	287,857	304,662
Argentine Republic	10,800	9,978	111,717	85,341
Brazil	9,624	20,036	112,203	97,227
Chile	49,699	15,156	223,147	149,985
Other South America	9,171	5,522	79,881	131,193
Breadstuffs:				
Corn (*Maiz; milho; maïs*):				
Central America	2,785	2,247	55,203	78,879
Mexico	41,070	9,977	1,148,396	963,840
Cuba	114,253	65,870	1,305,073	1,547,526
South America	1,430	1,712	13,327	19,244
Oats (*Avena; aveia; avoine*):				
Central America	1,070	7,857	25,285	52,226
Mexico	4,447	1,034	55,184	51,429
Cuba	43,202	13,470	310,924	294,801
South America	1,316	2,013	20,454	11,759
Wheat (*Trigo; trigo; blé*):				
Central America	7,868	1,823	33,393	28,386
Mexico	62,873	3,694	1,536,587	1,445,052
South America	36,970	97,063	361,543	433,622
Wheat flour (*Harina de trigo; farinha de trigo; farine de blé*):				
Central America	147,558	167,974	1,611,844	1,905,445
Mexico	6,726	9,238	118,443	146,017
Cuba	295,912	308,221	2,908,946	3,526,549
Brazil	127,923	128,018	1,292,637	1,620,149
Colombia	9,746	21,922	128,440	194,606
Other South America	125,406	125,253	2,424,855	1,669,626
Carriages, etc.:				
Automobiles (*Automóbiles; automoviles; automobiles*):				
Mexico	39,243	56,691	717,523	629,807
South America	24,503	23,533	166,814	244,466
Cars, passenger and freight (*Trenes para pasage y carga; caros de passageiros e carga; wagons de voyageurs et de marchandises*):				
Central America	5,873	109,255	2,008,993	1,631,270
Mexico	198,448	174,630	1,786,505	1,788,079
Cuba	53,908	172,165	1,022,717	845,229
Argentine Republic	453,092	145,270	1,518,031	1,267,248
Chile	29,380	256,656	171,567	395,518
Other South America	42,769	102,679	453,998	1,138,918
Cycles and parts of (*Bicicletas y sus accesorios; bicyclos e partes; Bicyclettes et leurs parties*):				
Mexico	7,162	10,401	106,363	92,406
Cuba	2,268	4,095	31,180	49,779
Argentine Republic	590	1,498	17,992	16,844
Brazil	824	1,156	10,584	13,679
Other South America	976	166	20,367	13,308
Clocks and watches (*Relojes de pared y bolsillo; relogios de bolso y parede; horloges et montres*):				
Central America	1,041	1,462	17,040	20,854
Mexico	5,189	3,562	72,171	62,464
Argentine Republic	537	6,368	71,761	70,892
Brazil	4,454	12,565	77,485	111,717
Chile	7,810	2,077	50,597	57,179
Other South America	1,830	5,872	40,050	44,764
Coal (*Carbón; carvao; charbon*):				
Mexico	209,484	236,147	3,137,980	3,273,568
Cuba	263,335	284,884	2,021,992	2,356,151
Copper (*Cobre; cobre; cuivre*):				
Mexico	47,158	25,338	737,300	1,029,999
Cotton:				
Cotton, unmanufactured (*Algodón en rama; algodão em rama; coton non manufacturé*):				
Mexico	.....	102,796	522,372	158,411
Cotton cloths (*Tejidos de algodón; fazendas de algodão; coton manufacturé*):				
Central America	129,956	110,511	1,663,680	1,691,273
Mexico	15,335	13,291	234,066	241,500
Cuba	44,103	65,012	936,663	1,063,914

EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	December—		12 months ending December—	
	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.
Cotton—Continued.				
Cotton cloths (*Tejidos de algodón; fazendas de algodão; coton manufacturé*)—Continued.	*Dollars.*	*Dollars.*	*Dollars.*	*Dollars.*
Argentine Republic	32,643	10,327	271,484	112,803
Brazil	36,630	25,081	479,338	450,977
Chile	208,103	6,699	988,027	654,707
Colombia	82,504	79,340	838,604	713,168
Venezuela	35,481	27,682	470,962	289,751
Other South America	67,565	46,264	470,702	516,765
Wearing apparel (*Ropa de algodón; roupa de algodão; vêtements de coton*):				
Central America	27,114	69,590	300,190	614,424
Mexico	17,755	29,995	240,513	456,198
Cuba	27,127	13,981	314,313	389,556
Other South America	9,649	13,587	111,038	124,590
Fibers:				
Twine (*Bramante; barbante; ficelle*):				
Argentine Republic	21,614	65,016	1,178,824	1,720,001
Other South America	10,326	8,920	234,193	271,240
Fish:				
Salmon (*Salmón; salmao; saumon*):				
Colombia	192	593	3,512	4,881
Other South America	71,790	79,935	235,331	581,665
Fruits and nuts (*Frutas y nueces; fruitas e nozes; fruits et noix*):				
Central America	18,246	23,566	112,530	171,384
Mexico	45,948	36,775	253,822	252,157
Cuba	44,282	41,677	203,040	249,934
South America	12,249	12,053	136,326	170,954
Glucose and grape sugar (*Glucosas; glucoses; glucoses*):				
Argentine Republic	7,085	12,292	96,056	61,793
Other South America	4,041	815	9,524	9,928
Instruments:				
Electric and scientific apparatus (*Aparatos eléctricos y científicos; apparatos electricos e scientificos; appareils électriques et scientifiques*):				
Central America	5,251	10,299	71,353	85,082
Mexico	45,080	12,095	402,646	373,566
Cuba	10,897	9,892	148,335	164,948
Argentine Republic	12,792	13,198	130,926	169,226
Brazil	3,534	8,579	62,087	118,516
Other South America	12,112	6,471	154,964	191,269
Electrical machinery (*Maquinaria eléctrica; machinas electricas; machines électriques*):				
Central America	10,849	7,913	47,603	97,365
Mexico	95,856	78,891	1,049,097	1,551,562
Cuba	646	10,634	437,327	74,625
Argentine Republic	5,854	46,041	168,256	210,657
Brazil	33,282	28,922	530,494	979,730
Other South America	13,058	6,523	147,881	187,729
Telegraph and telephone instruments (*Instrumentos telegráficos y telefónicos; instrumentos telegraphicos e telephonicos; instruments télégraphiques et téléphoniques*):				
Central America	21,845	19,094	178,226	246,458
Mexico	87,639	46,830	999,141	753,969
Cuba	23,552	40,542	557,217	398,769
Argentine Republic	21,077	23,430	347,949	202,637
Brazil	64,435	74,845	774,217	1,237,691
Other South America	68,122	25,744	487,000	729,645
Iron and steel, manufactures of:				
Steel rails (*Carriles de acero; trilhos de aço; rails d'acier*):				
Central America	147,240	174,124	641,178	860,313
Mexico	142,286	64,908	864,141	1,052,189
South America	435,999	181,459	3,008,778	2,437,100
Structural iron and steel (*Hierro y acero para construcción; ferro e aço para construcção; fer et acier pour la construction*):				
Mexico	82,041	45,736	571,153	936,493
Cuba	10,026	61,643	356,708	422,414
South America	116,662	14,698	451,186	734,968
Wire (*Alambre; arame; fil de fer*):				
Central America	22,204	18,210	232,742	229,295
Mexico	57,849	55,549	588,423	1,082,570
Cuba	33,845	39,308	454,607	622,230

EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	December—		12 months ending December—	
	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.
Iron and steel, manufactures of—Continued.				
Wire (*Alambre; arame; fil de fer*)—Continued.	*Dollars.*	*Dollars.*	*Dollars.*	*Dollars.*
Argentine Republic	99,210	184,119	1,509,369	1,493,109
Brazil	31,488	76,434	227,426	411,674
Other South America	52,212	90,916	487,672	681,760
Builders' hardware, etc. (*Materiales de metal para construcción; ferragems; matériaux de construction en fer et acier*):				
Central America	29,083	35,089	343,784	378,371
Mexico	82,216	49,101	1,079,395	1,149,006
Cuba	36,109	30,894	567,097	611,350
Argentine Republic	65,927	59,800	828,540	680,781
Brazil	49,723	65,598	481,037	613,110
Chile	36,110	2,083	297,411	377,137
Colombia	7,385	9,353	76,344	96,483
Venezuela	3,904	2,772	58,368	42,902
Other South America	32,405	27,979	308,155	384,384
Metal-working machinery (*Maquinaria para trabajar metales; machinismos para trabalhar em metal; machines pour travailler les métaux*):				
Mexico	9,628	2,888	68,499	92,773
South America	13,058	22,199	85,926	188,310
Pipes and fittings (*Cañería; tubos; tuyaux*):				
Central America	20,523	38,749	689,326	582,586
Mexico	104,421	153,830	1,548,127	1,624,648
Cuba	34,365	115,522	432,893	1,111,663
Argentine Republic	11,860	5,515	141,654	123,555
Other South America	31,119	14,129	250,931	295,243
Sewing machines, and parts of (*Máquinas de coser y sus accesorios; machinas de coser e accesorios; machines à coudre et leurs parties*):				
Central America	9,280	11,385	138,170	143,517
Mexico	39,550	58,546	795,747	732,631
Cuba	7,876	20,416	318,063	294,721
Argentine Republic	68,125	20,422	603,433	352,005
Brazil	46,974	53,781	330,439	541,308
Colombia	6,965	5,506	76,929	80,639
Other South America	36,132	28,294	423,087	493,753
Steam engines, and parts of (*Locomotoras y accesorios; locomotivas e accesorios; locomotifs et leurs parties*):				
Central America	104,663	2,500	1,301,872	846,062
Mexico	267,054	46,000	1,230,228	467,705
Cuba	178,990	78,436	647,498	710,666
Argentine Republic	265,835	.....	482,316	206,491
Brazil	.....	70,470	596,046	745,776
Other South America	89,705	38,829	602,080	1,125,850
Typewriting machines, and parts of (*Mecanógrafos y accesorios; machinas de escribir e accesorios; machines à écrire et leurs parties*):				
Central America	3,215	11,054	46,887	62,270
Mexico	33,707	20,118	373,152	360,545
Cuba	4,689	6,998	72,261	89,530
Argentine Republic	13,581	16,500	116,225	107,979
Brazil	5,436	6,502	62,969	98,727
Colombia	954	843	11,804	21,928
Other South America	13,945	10,481	167,364	226,500
Leather, other than sole (*Cuero, distinto del de suelas; couro, não para solas; cuirs, autres que pour semelles*):				
Central America	24,971	28,430	207,965	264,294
Cuba	12,341	12,054	153,510	132,709
Argentine Republic	17,061	18,418	274,311	205,623
Brazil	8,976	12,192	151,562	149,448
Other South America	13,840	24,853	293,712	221,345
Boots and shoes (*Calzados; calcados; chaussures*):				
Central America	67,218	84,331	514,441	737,787
Mexico	105,791	111,608	1,464,698	1,662,842
Colombia	4,847	3,283	59,192	47,874
Other South America	54,512	44,954	371,672	468,409
Meat and dairy products:				
Beef, canned (*Carne de baca en latas; carne de bacca em latas; boeuf conservé*):				
Central America	3,175	5,839	65,733	78,891
Mexico	1,555	1,226	28,053	19,953
Cuba	934	462	20,685	20,612
South America	2,734	1,644	45,374	41,775

EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	December—		12 months ending December—	
	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.
Meat and dairy products—Continued.				
Beef, salted or pickled (*Carne de vaca salada ó adobada; carne de vacca, salgada; boeuf salé*):	*Dollars.*	*Dollars.*	*Dollars.*	*Dollars.*
Central America	10,105	13,472	117,660	193,993
South America	23,664	16,635	261,535	205,528
Tallow (*Sebo; sebo; suif*):				
Central America	7,191	16,087	130,617	130,207
Mexico	1,848	4,269	22,415	40,478
Cuba	105	1,344	10,885	72,622
Chile	796	.....	92,986	65,698
Other South America	2,429	1,837	51,810	52,966
Bacon (*Tocino; toucinho; lard fumé*):				
Central America	2,585	1,987	32,170	45,281
Mexico	4,020	4,081	47,565	66,173
Cuba	36,071	43,773	515,008	572,758
Brazil	21,726	30,102	183,990	219,569
Other South America	830	2,655	10,958	25,654
Hams (*Jamones; presuntos; jambons*):				
Central America	15,436	14,949	119,392	174,315
Mexico	9,563	13,184	99,792	141,393
Cuba	70,139	49,287	573,454	636,968
Venezuela	5,247	5,313	46,773	46,021
Other South America	6,466	3,382	70,530	70,401
Pork (*Carne de puerco; carne de porco; porc*):				
Cuba	65,221	51,974	679,005	808,687
South America	27,665	23,061	258,535	276,045
Lard (*Manteca; banha; saindoux*):				
Central America	47,675	51,777	509,651	630,351
Mexico	67,840	90,824	547,176	805,490
Cuba	306,805	231,205	2,289,259	3,051,646
Brazil	131,691	61,405	134,442	1,195,233
Chile	17,691	11,383	175,404	157,296
Colombia	2,913	8,823	68,566	89,401
Venezuela	15,077	10,266	297,702	124,218
Other South America	45,381	64,078	602,916	642,379
Butter (*Mantequilla; manteiga; beurre*):				
Central America	14,590	19,969	152,029	191,224
Mexico	13,753	9,273	138,570	152,985
Cuba	8,183	2,476	62,806	63,333
Brazil	10,179	1,628	119,343	44,148
Venezuela	2,403	3,279	92,539	50,414
Other South America	9,300	1,180	51,398	41,821
Cheese (*Queso; queijo; fromage*):				
Central America	6,306	7,556	75,599	94,267
Mexico	4,852	7,022	43,454	52,415
Cuba	1,446	4,106	15,651	30,314
Naval stores:				
Rosin, tar, etc. (*Resina, alquitran, etc.; resina e alcatrão; resine et goudron*):				
Cuba	8,131	10,962	73,819	96,061
Argentine Republic	78,159	21,537	521,452	230,726
Brazil	51,031	117,139	651,818	759,470
Other South America	38,692	20,874	286,044	235,437
Turpentine (*Aguarras; aguaraz; térébenthine*):				
Central America	2,814	1,448	46,668	41,838
Cuba	4,734	8,054	80,525	84,348
Argentine Republic	14,386	26,384	284,937	369,512
Brazil	8,980	10,801	152,130	162,440
Chile	6,908	426	91,096	139,756
Other South America	6,599	4,726	81,533	92,222
Oils:				
Mineral, crude (*Aceites minerales; crudos; oleos minerães, crus; huiles, minerales, brutes*):				
Mexico	53,560	105,093	987,202	1,121,546
Cuba	29,816	60,832	575,334	432,501
Illuminating (*Aceites para alumbrado; oleos para illuminação; huiles d'eclairage*):				
Central America	26,702	31,921	270,144	324,680
Cuba	23,215	25,804	86,854	199,871
Argentine Republic	23,012	194,864	1,915,784	1,893,646
Brazil	231,518	273,001	2,572,119	2,678,957
Chile	19,000	3,328	665,366	741,316
Other South America	103,101	86,399	1,091,952	1,237,186
Lubricating (*Aceites para la lubricación; oleos para lubrificação; huiles à graisser*):				
Mexico	32,541	11,502	282,790	172,666
Cuba	43,451	35,434	245,651	340,987
Argentine Republic	53,971	51,843	404,333	471,278
Brazil	28,373	39,198	306,508	347,989
Chile	19,830	2,536	216,774	211,873

EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	December—		12 months ending December—	
	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.
Oils—Continued.				
Vegetable (*Aceites vegetales; oleos vegetaes; huiles végétales*):	*Dollars.*	*Dollars.*	*Dollars.*	*Dollars.*
Central America	3,815	4,689	39,350	63,128
Mexico	67,407	149,343	787,918	1,101,560
Cuba	10,063	14,438	213,392	241,732
Argentine Republic	.....	10,678	78,575	108,638
Brazil	28,246	26,166	249,917	599,168
Chile	955	20	49,357	160,334
Other South America	9,163	13,617	162,439	267,138
Paper (*Papel; papel; papier*):				
Mexico	4,199	7,747	40,625	84,839
Cuba	17,608	23,751	166,533	252,912
Argentine Republic	44,179	13,940	303,508	158,563
Brazil	719	845	32,830	9,055
Chile	7,359	124	160,051	180,921
Other South America	9,782	7,956	84,438	97,956
Paraffin (*Parafina; paraffina; paraffine*):				
Central America	2,901	7,284	63,780	80,829
Mexico	50,917	50,767	528,782	656,649
South America	5,881	4,195	42,315	54,127
Tobacco, unmanufactured (*Tabaco em rama; tabacco nao manufacturado; tabac non manufacturé*):				
Central America	4,074	4,798	68,427	57,085
Mexico	17,939	16,681	110,086	147,333
Argentine Republic	650	11,178	31,454	205,055
Colombia	.....	1,205	15,128	12,669
Other South America	10,672	8,599	88,689	90,899
Manufactured (*Tabaco elaborado; tabacco manufacturado; tabac manufacturé*):				
Central America	7,879	3,845	69,378	97,902
Wood, unmanufactured (*Madera sin labrada; madeira nao manufacturada; bois brut*):			644,692	591,141
Central America	26,072	51,537	1,278,899	1,734,077
Mexico	91,810	137,248	172,750	60,765
Cuba	7,560	.....	163,927	106,508
Argentine Republic	.....	56,635	218,703	126,272
Other South America	23,340	2,200		
Lumber (*Maderas; madeiras; bois de construction*):				
Central America	173,790	122,183	1,213,368	1,254,390
Mexico	169,270	238,181	2,154,107	2,712,264
Cuba	204,388	100,513	2,358,171	2,340,890
Argentine Republic	495,899	573,412	5,110,885	4,363,523
Brazil	97,669	18,731	870,014	822,739
Chile	182,203	69,184	831,458	1,517,046
Other South America	115,690	95,390	1,189,626	1,599,929
Furniture (*Muebles; mobilia; meubles*):				
Central America	16,614	32,346	288,592	370,026
Mexico	89,785	94,918	917,965	1,053,020
Cuba	44,218	71,730	574,850	737,928
Argentine Republic	35,029	51,553	351,047	518,194
Brazil	4,282	18,701	63,552	105,452
Chile	10,364	452	79,609	103,541
Colombia	956	1,418	18,132	17,393
Venezuela	1,563	440	19,855	18,964
Other South America	11,355	8,338	108,619	143,185

FOREIGN COMMERCE IN 1907.

Figures issued by the Bureau of Statistics of the United States for the calendar year 1907 show a total foreign commerce valued at $3,346,684,960, in which imports figured for $1,423,289,693 and exports for $1,923,395,267. An advance of $227,939,954 is thus indicated as compared with 1906, when total foreign trade aggregated $3,118,745,006, composed of imports, $1,320,501,572 and exports $1,798,243,434. The trade balance in 1907 was therefore $500,105,574, as compared with $477,741,862 in the preceding year.

Of the total imports cited for 1907 more than one-half, or $736,959,040, were of European origin, an advance of over $35,000,000 as compared with 1906. In the $26,000,000 increase noted in this branch of trade with North America, Mexico is represented by more than $5,000,000 and Central America by over $2,000,000. From South America import values remained practically unchanged, the figures for 1907 being $147,680,943, and for 1906, $147,941,781. Both years, however, show an advance of nearly $3,000,000 as compared with 1905. From Asia imports increased more than $19,000,000; from Oceania more than $9,000,000, and from Africa more than $10,000,000.

On the export list, the predominance of Europe is even more marked, $1,313,043,045 representing shipments thither out of a total export valuation of $1,923,395,267. As compared with 1906 an advance of over $67,000,000 is reported for this branch of foreign trade. Increased exports to North America aggregated over $36,000,000, in which Mexico figured for more than $5,000,000 and Central America more than $4,000,000. All of South America took merchandise valued at $85,612,408, as against $78,822,379 in 1906, showing an increase of over $6,000,000; shipments to Asia advanced $10,000,000; to Oceania, $5,000,000, and to Africa, $500,000.

Official valuations for the two years under comparison are as follows:

Grand division.	Imports.		Exports.	
	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.
Europe	$700,067,050	$736,959,040	$1,246,573,163	$1,313,045,045
North America	240,709,681	267,133,933	325,886,319	362,180,385
South America	147,941,781	147,680,943	78,822,379	85,612,408
Asia	196,369,212	216,233,770	89,075,358	99,127,195
Oceania	22,962,203	32,566,935	39,516,547	44,549,490
Africa	12,451,645	22,715,072	18,369,668	18,880,744
Grand total	1,320,501,572	1,423,289,693	1,798,243,434	1,923,395,267

The gold movement for the year consisted of imports of $143,398,066, which were $12,181,314 less than those for 1906, and exports aggregating $55,215,681, an increase of $8,506,523 over the preceding twelve months.

Silver imports totaled $46,013,976, as against $44,227,841 in 1906, and exports of the same metal were $61,625,866 and $60,957,091 for 1907 and 1906, respectively.

During 1907 sailing vessels entering the ports of the United States represented 2,905,768 tons, and clearances aggregated 3,070,065 tons. The tonnage of steam vessels was as follows: Entries, 35,513,482 tons, as compared with 32,454,853 tons in 1906; clearances, 35,186,499 tons, against 31,749,576 tons in the preceding year.

THE STATUS OF NATURALIZED CITIZENS.

On January 13, 1908, the Senate of the United States ratified the convention signed at Rio de Janeiro on August 13, 1906, by the delegates of the governments represented at the Third International Conference of American States, establishing the status of naturalized citizens who again take up their residence in the country of their origin.

The convention in reference was laid before the President of the United States by the Secretary of State on March 1, 1907, and transmitted to Congress for suitable action.

The terms of the convention are contained in four articles, as follows:

"ART. I. If a citizen, a native of any of the countries signing the present Convention, and naturalized in another, shall again take up his residence in his native country without the intention of returning to the country in which he has been naturalized, he will be considered as having reassumed his original citizenship, and as having renounced the citizenship acquired by the said naturalization.

"ART. II. The intention not to return will be presumed to exist when the naturalized person shall have resided in his native country for more than two years. But this presumption may be destroyed by evidence to the contrary.

"ART. III. This convention will become effective in the countries that ratify it three months from the dates upon which said ratifications shall be communicated to the Government of the United States of Brazil; and if it should be denounced by any one of them it shall continue in effect for one year more, to count from the date of such denouncement.

'ART. IV. The denouncement of this convention by any one of the signatory States shall be made to the Government of the United States of Brazil and shall take effect only with regard to the country that may make it."

RELATIVE DISTANCES BETWEEN ATLANTIC AND PACIFIC PORTS BY LAND AND SEA.

The distances between New York and San Francisco, according to figures complied by the United States Bureau of Statistics, are, direct by land, 3,191 miles; via Tehuantepec, 4,415 miles; via Panama, 5,305 miles, and via Magellan Straits, 13,089 miles. From New York to Port Townsend direct the distance is 3,199 miles; via Tehuantepec, 5,190 miles; via Panama, 6,080, and via Magellan Straits, 13,848 miles. From New York to Honolulu direct via San Francisco the distance is 5,288 miles; via Port Townsend, 5,569 miles; via Tehuantepec, 5,806 miles; via Panama, 6,686 miles, and via Magellan Straits, 13,269 miles.

THE WOOL PRODUCTION OF 1907.

According to the estimate of the National Association of Wool Manufacturers of the United States the total clip, including pulled wool, in 1907 was 298,294,750 pounds valued as $78,263,165. The production of the previous year was 298,915,130 pounds, valued at $79,721,383. The number of sheep fit for shearing is estimated at 38,864,932, compared with 38,540,798 in 1906.

URUGUAY.

CUSTOMS RECEIPTS, ELEVEN MONTHS OF 1907.

Uruguayan customs receipts for November, 1907, amounted to $922,723, showing a decrease of $23,099 as compared with the same month of 1906. For the eleven months' period ending with November, however, the total returns were $12,194,596 as compared with $11,952,463 in the corresponding period of the preceding year.

REDUCTION OF LIGHT-HOUSE DUES.

In accordance with a recently enacted law of the Uruguayan Republic the only tax which the State shall collect from ocean navigation for the service of light-houses shall be three cents per registered ton for vessels carrying cargo or cargo and passengers, and 1½ cents for those carrying passengers exclusively. Coasting vessels and such as touch at the ports of the Republic solely to take in coal, provisions, to take up pilot or crew, to await orders from their consigners or builders or to effect repairs in the hull, machinery, or rigging shall be exempt from this tax.

Those vessels which make Montevideo their terminus and starting point are also exempt.

The Executive is authorized to expend $200,000 in the reform of existing light-houses, the construction of new ones and the purchase of tugs for the light-house service, the sum to be taken from the financial surplus of the fiscal year 1906–7.

THE CEREAL AND FLAX CROP, 1906-7.

The Department of Stock Raising and Agriculture of the Uruguayan Republic published in December, 1907, the statistics relating to the cereal and flax crop of the agricultural year 1906–7. The cultivated area was as follows: Wheat, 252,258 hectares; maize, 212,154; flax 23,529; oats, 135,944; barley, 1,883; canary seed, 2,556. The

amounts sown during the crop year in reference were as follows: Wheat, 17,824,934 kilograms; flax, 954,141; oats, 135,944; barley, 129,652; canary seed, 84,790, and maize, 2,661,355. The production was: Wheat, 186,884,422 kilograms (186,884 tons); flax, 21,930,704 (21,931 tons); oats, 1,752,247 (1,752 tons); barley, 1,576,213 (1,576 tons); canary seed, 1,638,182 (1,638 tons), and maize, 136,136,240 (136,136 tons). The average production per hectare was as follows: Wheat, 740 kilograms; flax, 742, and maize, 641.

VENEZUELA.

TARIFF MODIFICATIONS.

A decree of President CASTRO, of the Republic of Venezuela, dated on the 19th of December, 1907, and published in the "*Gaceta Oficial*" of the same day, makes the following tariff modifications, which went into effect on the date mentioned:

Marble, unworked, unpolished, also sepulchral monuments of marble, shall be dutiable under Class 3 of the tariff, the rate of duty being 25 cents of *bolivar* per kilogram. Tiles for paving mausoleums shall not be regarded as parts of sepulchral monuments. Such tiles shall pay as marbles polished or wrought, under Class 4, or 75 cents of *bolivar* per kilogram.

Blank books shall pay a duty of 1 *bolivar* and 25 cents per kilogram under Class 5.

Secret or patent medicines, duly examined by the Board for the Examination and Classification of Patent Medicines, shall be dutiable under the same class.

Envelopes, totally or partially made, shall be appraised under Class 6, paying a duty of 2 *bolivares* and 50 cents.

Chintz, nainsook, calico, cretones, *carlancan*, brilliantine, fine striped cloth having more than 13 threads in warp or weft in a square of 5 millimeters, poplin, *malvinas*, Japanese cloths, lustring, colored percale, and similar tissues not enumerated in other classes, such as cotton merino and colored cotton flannel, shall be dutiable under Class 6 at a rate of 2 *bolivares* and 50 cents.

Muslin, colored cotton crepon, lawn, *rengue* (cotton gauze), barege, grenadine, organdy, zephyr, *clarin*, *dulce sueño*, tarlatan, *imité*, Holland batiste, light cotton batiste, white or colored, plain, figured, transparent or embroidered, in the piece or cut out for articles of clothing, and all other tissues similar to the above and not included in other classes, shall pay a duty of 5 *bolivares* per kilogram under Class 7.

REGULATION OF THE TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE SYSTEMS.

The numbers of the "*Gaceta Oficial*" for December 20 and 23, 1907, contain decrees by President CASTRO regulating the telegraph and telephone systems of the Republic of Venezuela. The decree of December 20 provides as follows:

"ARTICLE 1. The establishment of national telegraph lines and official telephones appertains exclusively to the Federal Executive.

"ART. 2. Special telegraph lines may be maintained, solely for their own service, by railroad companies which may be established in the Republic, provided these obtain the permission of the National Government, without which such lines may not be constructed, and by railway companies having already established such lines conformably to contracts with the Federal Executive approved by the National Congress.

"ART. 3. Everything appertaining to the administration and service of the national telegraphs and telephones, as well as the construction of new lines, is placed under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Promotion.

"ART. 4. All residents within the territory of Venezuela have the right, subject to the rules appertaining thereto, to correspond by means of the national telegraphs.

"ART. 5. Everything concerning the service, administration, and accounting of the national telegraphs and telephones will be regulated by special decree.

"ART. 6. The laws, decrees, and orders in force at this time, regarding national telegraphs and telephones, are hereby repealed.

"ART. 7. The Minister of Promotion is charged with the execution of this decree."

The special decree of December 23, 1907, places, subject to the Minister of Promotion, the telegraph and telephone lines under the charge of a Director of National Telegraphs and Official Telephones, sets forth the manner in which new lines may be constructed, the States of the Union being prohibited from building such, and provides for the division of the lines, classification of offices, personnel of employees, their duties, rates, accounting, franks, and disciplinary and penal regulations.

LA PLAZA DEL PUERTO DE CALLAO, PERÚ.

The Plaza at the Port of Callao, Peru.

Boletín Mensual

DE LA

Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas,

Unión Internacional de Repúblicas Americanas.

Vol. XXVI. FEBRERO 1908. No. 2.

La Cuarta Conferencia Pan-Americana se celebrará en 1910 en Buenos Aires, capital de la República Argentina. Este fué el acuerdo á que se llegó en la sesión ordinaria del Consejo Directivo de la Oficina Internacional celebrada el 5 de febrero de 1908. El voto á favor de Buenos Aires fué unánime, y los diplomáticos que se hallaban presentes hicieron apropiadas observaciones al hacer constar la actitud de sus respectivos gobiernos. Esta reunión fué muy concurrida y se demostró gran interés en las primeras medidas que se tomaron relativas á la próxima Conferencia de las Repúblicas Americanas. El Consejo Directivo se propone preparar con gran esmero esta reunión, á fin de que resulte una Conferencia que continúe dignamente la obra hecha por las tres que le han precedido y que se celebraron en Wáshington, México y Río de Janeiro, respectivamente. Nada más propio que esta Conferencia se reuna en Buenos Aires en 1910, puesto que la República Argentina se prepara con entusiasmo para celebrar en gran escala, en esa fecha, el centenario de su independencia. Este acontecimiento reviste grandísimo interés para toda la América y ha de proporcionar una base adecuada—especie de numen—para las sesiones de la Conferencia. Se trata, pues, de celebrar una gran exposición para conmemorar el aniversario nacional, la cual, sin duda, ha de atraer un gran número de visitantes, tanto de los Estados Unidos como de Europa. Como quiera que en la actualidad Buenos Aires tiene 1,140,000 habitantes, y que su población aumenta con tanta rapidez como cualquiera ciudad de los Estados Unidos, con excepción, acaso, de Nueva York y Chicago, figura entre las grandes capitales del mundo, y es un lugar sumamente propicio tanto para celebrar una Conferencia Internacional como una Exposición Internacional. El hecho de escogerse desde ahora el lugar y la fecha para celebrar la primera concede tiempo suficiente al Gobierno de la Argentina no sólo para hacer los debidos preparativos, sino también para que el Consejo Directivo de la Oficina prepare el programa correspondiente.

LAS CONVENCIONES Y RESOLUCIONES DE LA TERCERA CONFERENCIA PAN-AMERICANA.

Al Consejo Directivo, en su última sesión, se sometió un informe muy importante, el cual se refiere á las Convenciones y Resoluciones que fueron firmadas en la Tercera Conferencia Pan-Americana que se celebró en Río de Janeiro. La comisión que presentó el informe se componía del Sr. J. N. Léger, Ministro de Haití, el Sr. Don Epifanio Portela, Ministro de la República Argentina, y el Sr. Don Felipe Pardo, Ministro del Perú; auxiliados por el Director y Secretario de la Oficina, en cuanto á la preparación de los datos necesarios. En esta edición del Boletín se publica íntegro dicho informe, en el cual se muestra el estado actual respecto de los trabajos de las tres Conferencias. Dicho informe muestra, además, que es necesario que varios de los Gobiernos procedan á aprobar ó desaprobar las diferentes Convenciones y Resoluciones, á fin de que la Cuarta Conferencia encuentre el camino expedito. La comisión recomienda vehementemente que los miembros del Consejo Directivo pidan á sus respectivos Gobiernos que tomen en consideración inmediatamente estas Resoluciones y Convenciones, á fin de que se ratifiquen desde luego ó que sugieran las enmiendas que juzguen oportunas, las cuales pueden someterse á la consideración de la próxima Conferencia. Una de las recomendaciones importantes que hace la Comisión es la de que se autorice al Director para establecer una Sección de Estadística y de Información Comercial como una Subdivisión de la Oficina Internacional. La Comisión también aconseja que los diferentes países hagan gestiones favorables, sin ninguna demora, encaminadas á aumentar en un 50 por ciento las cuotas con que en la actualidad contribuyen al sostenimiento de la Oficina, y que á los países que sean morosos en el pago de sus cuotas no sólo para el mantenimiento de la Oficina, sino para el nuevo edificio, se les suplique que subsanen sin demora esta deficiencia, á fin de que no se impidan los trabajos de la Oficina ni se demore la construcción del edificio.

EL INFORME ESPECIAL DEL PROFESOR WILLIAM R. SHEPHERD.

En esta edición del Boletín se publica un interesante y detallado informe hecho por el Profesor William R. Shepherd, sobre las relaciones comerciales de los Estados Unidos y la América del Sur. Todos los que estén interesados en el desarrollo del comercio panamericano y de la cordialidad internacional, deben leer dicho informe. Se recordará que el Profesor Shepherd, que es uno de los miembros

más eminentes del cuerpo de profesores de la Universidad de Columbia, de la Ciudad de Nueva York, en 1907 hizo un viaje á la América del Sur, y estuvo en el Ecuador, Perú, Bolivia, Chile, la República Argentina, el Uruguay y el Brasil, habiendo ido por la costa occidental, vía Panamá, y regresado por la costa oriental y Río de Janeiro. Á ruego del Director de esta Oficina, el expresado profesor hizo una investigación especial á beneficio de esta última, y expresa su opinión en este informe. Debe agregarse que el Profesor SHEPHERD es un estudiante é investigador muy asiduo y que siempre ha demostrado interés en fomentar relaciones más íntimas entre la América del Norte y la del Sur. Las indicaciones que hace son resultado de una detenida consideración y son muy pertinentes. Se espera que el ejemplo establecido por el Profesor SHEPHERD sea seguido por los catedráticos de universidades que tienen á su cargo cátedras semejantes en las diferentes instituciones de este país, despertando así mayor interés en todos los ámbitos de los Estados Unidos hacia sus Repúblicas hermanas.

ESTUDIO DE LA HISTORIA Y LA POLÍTICA SUDAMERICANAS.

La disertación que leyó el Doctor HIRAM BINGHAM de la Universidad de Yale ante la Asociación de Ciencia Política Americana en la Ciudad de Madison, Estado de Wisconsin, el 28 de diciembre de 1907, sobre los medios que ofrecen la historia y política sudamericanas como un campo de investigación, contiene tantos datos originales, interesantes y valiosos para todos los estudiantes y demás personas interesadas en aquella parte del mundo, que se ha juzgado conveniente reproducirla en esta edición del BOLETÍN. El Director recomienda especialmente dicha memoria á un gran número de catedráticos de colegios americanos y de estudiantes de establecimientos docentes americanos que en la actualidad se proponen emprender el estudio de la historia y la política de nuestras Repúblicas hermanas. Esta Oficina recibe constantemente cartas de estudiantes en las principales instituciones docentes de los Estados Unidos, pidiendo informes que se relacionan precisamente con el contenido de esta disertación del Doctor BINGHAM. Los hechos que en dicha memoria se relatan y los informes que contiene sorprenderán á la mayoría de las personas que aún no han llegado ni siquiera á comprender la oportunidad que existe en los Estados Unidos para estudiar tan interesante tema. Teniendo á mano los datos proporcionados por el Doctor BINGHAM, á cualquiera le será dable comenzar á hacer una investigación sobre cualesquiera fases generales ó especiales de la historia y la política de la América del Sur.

LA FRATERNIDAD CENTROAMERICANA.

La Conferencia de Paz Centroamericana que terminó sus sesiones el 20 de diciembre de 1907, después de celebrar sus sesiones durante un período de cinco semanas en la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas, tomó una medida casi sin precedente, y que, no obstante, tiene un valor sentimental especial para fomentar relaciones más íntimas entre la América Central, México y los Estados Unidos. Se ha organizado la Fraternidad Centroamericana, cuyo fin principal es mantener vivo el espíritu de mutuo interés y simpatía entre las Repúblicas de la América del Norte. En esta edición del BOLETÍN se publica el Acta Constitucional de dicha fraternidad, la cual debieran leer todos los que procuran estar al corriente del espíritu de las resoluciones de la Conferencia. No es una exageración hacer constar que la organización de esta fraternidad denota el colmo de la cordialidad internacional y sentimientos fraternales que caracterizaron todas las sesiones de la Conferencia y las relaciones de los diferentes delegados, y por tanto, debiera ejercer una poderosa influencia á favor de la feliz realización de todas las convenciones que fueron firmadas en esta notable reunión.

EL PRIMER CONGRESO CIENTÍFICO PANAMERICANO.

Es tal la rapidez con que se aumenta el interés en todos los Estados Unidos y las otras Repúblicas Americanas, en cuanto al Primer Congreso Científico Panamericano que se ha de reunir en la Ciudad de Santiago, Chile, el 10 de diciembre de 1908, que se ha juzgado oportuno publicar en esta edición del BOLETÍN el programa y las bases propuestos. Se espera que el Congreso de los Estados Unidos apruebe la asignación recomendada por el Secretario ROOT, á fin de que los Estados Unidos tomen parte oficialmente en dicho Congreso. Dícese que el Gobierno de Chile está haciendo extensos preparativos, y que casi todas las Repúblicas Americanas enviarán delegados á dicho Congreso. Además de los que sean nombrados directamente por los Gobiernos, otros representantes de diferentes universidades ó instituciones científicas serán también objeto de una cordial bienvenida.

DISCURSOS PRONUNCIADOS POR EL DIRECTOR SOBRE LA AMÉRICA LATINA.

Como una prueba del creciente interés que se demuestra en todos los Estados Unidos acerca de los asuntos de la América latina, puede decirse que si el Director de la Oficina fuese á aceptar la tercera parte de las invitaciones que recibe de cámaras de comercio, establecimi-

entos docentes, y otras instituciones, para que dé conferencias en ellas sobre las relaciones generales y comerciales entre los Estados Unidos y la América latina, sería necesario que el Director hablase casi todos los días desde el 1° de enero hasta el 1° de junio. Estas conferencias no se limitan ciertamente á ninguna región especial del país, sino que tienen lugar tanto en la parte central y remota del oeste como en los Estados de la Nueva Inglaterra y del Sur. Sin embargo, las exigencias consiguientes á sus deberes como Director de la expresada Oficina, sólo le permiten aceptar un pequeño número de estas invitaciones. Como una prueba de los esfuerzos que el Director hace por acceder—hasta donde le es posible—á estas invitaciones y suministrar en esta forma los informes solicitados, á continuación aparece una lista de algunas de las conferencias que ha dado: "University Club" de Wáshington, D. C., enero 4; "Oregon Society," Wáshington, D. C., enero 11; banquete para celebrar la inauguración de una nueva compañía de vapores á la América del Sur, dado en la Ciudad de Nueva York el 14 de enero; Instituto Bancario de Wáshington, enero 16; Club de Hombres de la Iglesia Central Presbiteriana de Wáshington, D. C., enero 20; Cooper Union, en la Ciudad de Nueva York, enero 27; banquete anual de la Asociación de Comerciantes y Fabricantes de Baltimore, enero 30; Asociación Nacional de Fabricantes de la Ciudad de Nueva York, enero 31; Sociedad de California, Wáshington, D. C., enero 2; banquete en honor de la memoria de Lincoln, en Grand Rapids, Michigan, febrero 12; Cámara de Comercio de Pontiac, Michigan, febrero 13; Club Comercial de Lincoln, Nebraska, febrero 17; Escuela de Mckenzie, Dobb's Ferry, Nueva York, celebración en honor del cumpleaños de Wáshington en la mañana del 22 de febrero; Asociación Nacional de Joyeros de Filadelfia, en la noche del 22 de febrero, y la Sociedad Geográfica Americana establecida en Nueva York, el 25 de febrero.

ITINERARIOS Y CONDICIONES DE VIAJE EN LA AMÉRICA DEL SUR.

Á la Oficina Internacional se le hacen tantas preguntas de los Estados Unidos y de Europa acerca de las condiciones y los itinerarios de viaje en la América del Sur, que ha tenido á bien suplicarle al Sr. Lee McClung, Tesorero de la Universidad de Yale, que recientemente hizo un viaje alrededor de la América, y á la distinguida escritora Sra. Marie Robinson Wright, que ha visitado todas las partes del continente meridional, se sirvan preparar breves reseñas descriptivas de los itinerarios y las condiciones de viaje que puedan serles útiles á los que intenten visitar esa parte del mundo. A juzgar por la correspondencia que esta Oficina recibe, es de esperar que el próximo año haya un gran aumento en el número de viajeros á la America del

Sur. Además, se sabe que muchos viajeros que hasta ahora acostumbraban ir á Europa y Asia, han resuelto, en vista del creciente interés que la América latina despierta, cambiar su itinerario de costumbre, para ver lo que pasa en la América del Sur y Central, y enterarse de su progreso, etc. Á propósito de lo que queda expuesto, conviene tener presente la gran mejora introducida por la Lamport & Holt Company en el servicio de vapores de la costa oriental, por el hecho de haber agregado á su flota tres grandes vapores que tienen aproximadamente 10,000 toneladas cada uno, que cuentan con magníficas comodidades para los pasajeros y hacen permanentemente el viaje de Nueva York á Río de Janeiro y Buenos Aires. En esta edición del BOLETÍN se publica una fotografía de uno de estos vapores, y una ó dos vistas interiores del mismo, á fin de que las personas que piensan ir á la América del Sur vean que pueden hacer la travesía con comodidad.

LOS FERROCARRILES ARGENTINOS.

Las leyes sancionadas por el Gobierno Argentino con el fin de obtener la uniformidad de los privilegios que han de ser concedidos á las varias compañías ferroviarias que funcionan en la República, han dado un notable impulso al desarrollo de nuevas empresas. En la actualidad la longitud total de las líneas que están en operación asciende á cerca de 14,000 millas, de las cuales más de 900 se construyeron el año pasado, y representan la inversión de un capital de $671,688,874. Se proyecta la consolidación de los intereses de tres importantes líneas, y las cláusulas del contrato por virtud del cual ha de efectuarse esta consolidación prescriben el desembolso de gruesas sumas para nuevas prolongaciones y mejoras.

El servicio postal y el de las líneas de telégrafos, tan íntimamente ligados con las empresas ferroviarias, también mostraron un progreso satisfactorio en 1907, por cuanto los ingresos procedentes de dichos servicios muestran un aumento de $746,961 respecto del año anterior.

En todos los ramos de la renta interna se hizo un informe igualmente satisfactorio.

EL ESTAÑO DE BOLIVIA EN LOS MERCADOS DEL MUNDO.

La estadística relativa al estaño durante el año de 1907, en los mercados de Europa y América, muestra que este producto boliviano representa el segundo lugar entre los artículos exportados. Aunque la producción de la Colonia Inglesa de la Indo-China fué mucho mayor, Bolivia produjo 15,300 toneladas en el año de referencia, contra 16,380 en el año de 1906.

El cultivo de la Provincia de Larecaja ha sido objeto de un informe dirigido al Departamento de Colonización y Agricultura, del cual informe se reproducen algunos extractos en esta edición del BOLETÍN, por considerarse interesantes para los que comercian en este producto.

MEDIDAS LEGISLATIVAS DEL GOBIERNO BRASILEÑO.

Las noticias que se han recibido del Brasil indican la probabilidad de que se revise el arancel del país durante la próxima sesión del Congreso Nacional que se efectuará en mayo de 1908, y la vigencia de dichas medidas en agosto del mismo año. Entre tanto, las importantes modificaciones de los derechos de importación sobre los materiales industriales y la maquinaria quedan comprendidas en la ley Bidget que se promulgó el 1° de enero de 1908. También quedará vigente la rebaja de un 20 por ciento concedida por la ley de 30 de junio de 1906 á ciertos artículos determinados procedentes de los Estados Unidos.

Se aplican restricciones imperativas á la importación de substancias alimenticias y bebidas en las cuales se usan preservativos perjudiciales á la salud pública, y se ha de iniciar una activa propaganda bajo la supervisión del Gobierno, á fin de introducir y popularizar los productos del país en el extranjero.

Ya se nota el resultado de esta concesión en las cifras relativas al comercio entre los dos países en 1907, publicadas por la Oficina de Estadística de los Estados Unidos, pues en dicho período el valor de las compras que el Brasil le hizo á los Estados Unidos excedió en $4,000,000 al valor de las que le hizo en los doce meses anteriores.

EL COMERCIO DE CUBA EN 1906–7.

En el informe del Gobernador Provisional MAGOON relativo á las condiciones generales de la República cubana desde fines de 1906 hasta fines de 1907, se muestra que la situación económica de dicha República en general es satisfactoria. En el año económico de 1906–7, el valor de las importaciones sufrió una disminución de más de $7,000,000, en comparación con el valor de las importaciones en los doce meses anteriores, pero hubo un aumento de más de $5,000,000 en el valor de las exportaciones. En el comercio con los Estados Unidos en el año común de 1907 se advierte un aumento considerable, tanto en el valor de las importaciones como en el de las exportaciones.

EL CENSO DE CHILE Y LA PROMULGACIÓN DE ALGUNAS LEYES.

El informe de carácter privado acerca del resultado del censo chileno que se formó á fines de 1907, fija el número total de habitantes de la República en 3,250,000, ó sea un aumento de poco menos de 50,000 habitantes desde 1903, época en que se levantó el censo anterior.

Anúnciase que el Congreso chileno sancionó una ley el 22 de enero de 1908, la cual prescribe una asignación para el ferrocarril longitudinal que ha de construírse desde la línea divisoria peruana hasta el Estrecho de Magallanes, ó sea una distancia de 2,600 millas, al paso que la concesión de un contrato á una compañía alemana con el fin de establecer una línea desde Arica hasta La Paz, constituye otra prueba evidente de la actividad que el Gobierno está desplegando en este importante ramo del desarrollo nacional.

La propuesta modificación de los derechos de aduana sobre el ganado vacuno, el ganado lanar y ciertos tejidos, que el Gobierno chileno ha estado estudiando (véase el BOLETÍN MENSUAL correspondiente á diciembre de 1907), ha sido sancionada y promulgada como una ley. La suspensión de los derechos sobre el ganado vacuno y la rebaja de un 50 por ciento de los derechos sobre los demás artículos especificados, comenzará á regir dentro de seis meses.

EL PROGRESO COMERCIAL DE MÉXICO.

La posición que México ocupa en el mundo comercial cada día es más alta. En los cuatro meses del año económico acerca de los cuales se han obtenido datos estadísticos, es decir; desde julio hasta octubre de 1907, se advierte un aumento de más de $6,000,000, tanto en el valor de las importaciones como en el de las exportaciones, en comparación con el período correspondiente del año anterior, al paso que se nota un aumento de cerca de $2,000,000 en la renta de aduana recaudada en el primer semestre de 1907–8, respecto del primer semestre de 1906–7. El valor de las transacciones comerciales que se llevaron á cabo en el año común de 1907, ascendió á un poco más de $200,000,000, y más de la mitad de esta suma la representaban empresas comerciales, la organización de nuevas compañías y el aumento en el capital de las corporaciones existentes.

El valor de las mercancías de los Estados Unidos que se embarcaron en 1907 por la vía de Tehuantepec, entre los puertos del Atlántico y del Pacífico, se calculó que ascendía como de $25,000,000 á $30,000,000, debiendo agregarse que el hecho de acortarse el transporte para el azúcar de Hawai le ha proporcionado especiales ventajas á los comerciantes.

El comercio con los Estados Unidos muestra que el valor de las importaciones ascendió á más de $67,000,000, en tanto que el de las exportaciones en 1907 ascendió á más de $57,000,000, ó sea un aumento de $5,420,627 en el valor de las primeras, y de $6,006,528 en el de las segundas, en comparación con 1906.

LA NUEVA LEY AGRARIA Y LAS CONCESIONES RELATIVAS AL CULTIVO DE LA GOMA EN NICARAGUA.

La ley que recientemente fué sancionada en Nicaragua, y que tiene por objeto estimular la agricultura y la industria pecuaria en toda la República, prescribe el establecimiento en el extranjero de una activa propaganda en pro de los productos del país. Debido al hecho de hacerse la explotación en debida forma, la industria de bananos ya se ha aumentado hasta un grado que hasta ahora no tenía precedente, y otros productos de Nicaragua también son susceptibles de un desarrollo semejante. El Sr. Frederick M. Ryder, Cónsul de los Estados Unidos en San Juan del Norte, al hacer un informe relativo á una concesión gomera que fué otorgada recientemente, hace constar que es enteramente probable que dicha concesión sea traspasada finalmente á la compañía que en la actualidad tiene dos concesiones importantes del Gobierno nicaragüense, de manera que la expresada compañía tendrá el *control* de la producción de toda la goma de los bosques silvestres de la República.

EL ESTADO FINANCIERO DE PANAMÁ.

Las condiciones de prosperidad de Panamá se indican por el hecho de que la renta interna recaudada en el año de 1907 excedió en $5,436.05 al cálculo del presupuesto, que ascendió á $2,439,301.68. La mayor parte de estos ingresos procedieron de los derechos de importación.

El valor de las mercancías de los Estados Unidos transportadas por el Ferrocarril de Panamá en 1907, se calcula que ascendió como de $12,000,000 á $15,000,000, y el valor de las importaciones de aquel país muestra un aumento de más de $4,000,000, en comparación con el año anterior.

EL FERROCARRIL CENTRAL DE PARAGUAY.

El extenso resumen del informe acerca del Ferrocarril Central de Paraguay correspondiente al año que terminó el 30 de abril de 1907, y que se publica en esta edición del Boletín, muestra que los asuntos

pendientes entre la compañía operante y el Gobierno han sido arreglados de una manera satisfactoria para los interesados. Como quiera que en toda la República esta es la única compañía que está en operación, su porvenir y desarrollo del país están íntimamente ligados, y se espera que la terminación de la controversia dé un nuevo impulso á los negocios. Dícese que las cosechas están en magníficas condiciones y que todo indica una vitalidad creciente en todos los ramos del comercio y la industria.

EL COMERCIO DEL PERÚ CON LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS.

Según las cifras publicadas por el Gobierno de los Estados Unidos, en 1907 el comercio entre el Perú y los Estados Unidos mostró un notable desarrollo. En el año de referencia hubo un aumento de $4,154,790 en el valor de las exportaciones de productos peruanos á los Estados Unidos, en comparación con el año anterior, en tanto que en el mismo período hubo un aumento de $1,672,762 en el valor de las importaciones de los Estados Unidos.

La mina de Cerro de Pasco embarcó para los Estados Unidos 10,000 toneladas de cobre de las 28,000 toneladas de dicho metal exportadas de toda la América del Sur.

Además, la prosperidad mercantil la indica el informe de la Corporación Peruana cuyas operaciones en el año que terminó el 30 de junio de 1907 muestran una ganancia líquida de $1,000,000.

LAS CONDICIONES COMERCIALES DEL SALVADOR.

La República del Salvador anuncia que el valor de las exportaciones en el primer semestre de 1907 ascendió á $5,642,700, de los cuales las exportaciones de café representaron $4,369,600. Se recaudaron $282,293 de derechos sobre estas exportaciones, en tanto que los derechos de importación ascendieron á un total de $1,440,194. Se advierte una pequeña disminución en comparación con el período correspondiente del año anterior. Los Estados Unidos ocupan el primer lugar entre los países á los cuales se hicieron exportaciones.

LA RENTA DE ADUANA Y EL COMERCIO DEL URUGUAY EN 1907.

Se calcula que el total de la renta de aduana de la República del Uruguay correspondiente al año de 1907, mostrará un aumento muy satisfactorio respecto del año anterior, por cuanto dicha renta ascendió aproximadamente á $13,000,000. Durante el último mes del año se notó una gran actividad en los negocios por todos los ámbitos de la República.

En el año de referencia hubo un aumento de $810,395 en el valor de las importaciones de los Estados Unidos, por más que se notó una disminución de $1,076,482 en el valor de las exportaciones á dicho país.

LAS LÍNEAS TELEGRÁFICAS Y TELEFÓNICAS DEL GOBIERNO DE VENEZUELA.

Por un decreto de 20 diciembre de 1907 se establece lo que viene á ser prácticamente la propiedad del Gobierno de las líneas de telégrafo y teléfono en toda la República de Venezuela, por cuanto el artículo 1 expresa que el establecimiento de dichas empresas pertenece exclusivamente al Ejecutivo Federal.

También se publican algunas modificaciones arancelarias que empezaron á regir en el último mes de dicho año y que se consideran interesantes para el comercio.

IMPORTANTE REUNIÓN DEL CONSEJO DIRECTIVO DE LA OFICINA INTERNACIONAL DE LAS REPÚBLICAS AMERICANAS.

La sesión ordinaria del Consejo Directivo de la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas se efectuó el día 5 de febrero en el Salón de Recepciones Diplomáticas del Departamento de Estado, bajo la presidencia del Secretario de Estado de los Estados Unidos, y estando presentes los siguientes miembros del Consejo: Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Haití, Honduras, México, Nicaragua, Perú, y Uruguay.

El informe de la comisión nombrada en la sesión del Consejo Directivo de 4 de diciembre de 1907, para estudiar é informar las medidas que se deben tomar para dar cumplimiento á las convenciones y resoluciones de la Tercera Conferencia Panamericana celebrada en Río Janeiro en 1906, fué aprobado por unanimidad, y autorizado el Director de la Oficina para tomar las medidas necesarias para llevar á efecto las recomendaciones que contiene el informe.

La resolución especial relativa á la Cuarta Conferencia Panamericana, que presentó el Ministro de Costa Rica con el apoyo del Ministro de Bolivia en la sesión ordinaria de 8 de enero de 1908, fué aceptada for unanimidad. La resolución es como sigue:

"Se resuelve que la próxima conferencia de las Repúblicas Americanas se reuna en la ciudad de Buenos Aires, República Argentina, en el año de 1910."

Por consiguiente, la ciudad de Buenos Aires fué escogida por aclamación, así como la fecha, que es la del primer centenario de dicha metrópoli sud-americana.

Á continuación se leerá el referido informe:

INFORME DE LA COMISIÓN NOMBRADA EN LA SESIÓN ORDINARIA DEL CONSEJO DIRECTIVO DE LA OFICINA INTERNACIONAL DE LAS REPÚBLICAS AMERICANAS, DE 4 DE DICIEMBRE DE 1907, PARA ESTUDIAR É INFORMAR AL CONSEJO LAS MEDIDAS QUE SE DEBEN TOMAR PARA DAR CUMPLIMIENTO Á LAS CONVENCIONES Y RESOLUCIONES DE LA TERCERA CONFERENCIA PANAMERICANA CELEBRADA EN RÍO JANEIRO, BRASIL, EN 1906.

Señor Presidente y Señores miembros del Consejo Directivo de la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas:

Los infrascritos, nombrados en la sesión del Consejo Directivo de 4 de diciembre de 1907, para estudiar é informar las medidas que se deben tomar para dar cumplimiento á las convenciones y resoluciones de la Tercera Conferencia Panamericana, que se reunió en Río Janeiro, Brasil, en 1906, después de madura consideración, con el concurso del Director y del Secretario de la Oficina, de la gestión que se les encargó, tienen el honor de presentar el siguiente informe:

La Tercera Conferencia Panamericana firmó como resultado de sus deliberaciones cuatro (4) convenciones y catorce (14) resoluciones, que se expresan á continuación:

CONVENCIONES.

I. Fijando la condición de los ciudadanos naturalizados que renuevan su residencia en el país de su origen.

II. Reclamaciones pecuniarias.

III. Patentes de invención, dibujos y modelos industriales, marcas de fábrica y comercio, y propiedad literaria y artística.

IV. Derecho internacional.

RESOLUCIONES.

1. Arbitraje.
2. Reorganización de la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas.
3. Edificio para la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas.
4. Recomendando la creación de secciones especiales, dependientes de los Ministerios de Relaciones Exteriores, y determinando las funciones de ellas.
5. Sección de comercio, aduana, y estadística comercial.
6. Deudas públicas.
7. Profesiones liberales.
8. Relaciones comerciales.
9. Futuras conferencias.
10. Recursos naturales.
11. Policía sanitaria.

12. Ferrocarril Intercontinental.
13. La industria del café.
14. Fluctuaciones del tipo de cambio.

A. Cada uno do los Gobiernos representados en la Conferencia de Río Janeiro debe haber recibido del secretario de la Conferencia copia certificada de las convenciones y resoluciones antedichas. Parece, sin embargo, que algunos de los miembros del Consejo Directivo están en duda de si sus Gobiernos respectivos han recibido las referidas copias, y en esta virtud la comisión recomienda que se autorice al Director de la Oficina para que, cuanto antes, se dirija por telégrafo al secretario de la Conferencia de Río Janeiro, con el objeto de cerciorarse si se ha cumplido con aquel requisito.

Hay noticia de que algunos de los Gobiernos han sometido dichas convenciones á los congresos respectivos para su consideración y ratificación; pero como están incompletos los informes que hay al respecto, se recomienda á cada uno de los miembros del Consejo Directivo que, por cable, si fuese necesario, se cerciore de la disposición que haya tomado el Gobierno que representa, y que ponga en conocimiento del Director de la Oficina el resultado de su gestión.

En caso de que resulte que alguno de los Gobiernos no ha tomado todavía las medidas conducentes á que se haga el estudio y la ratificación referidos, la Comisión que suscribe recomienda que el Consejo Directivo inste para que á la mayor brevedad se llegue á una determinación final, de modo que las objeciones ó excepciones que los Gobiernos tengan que hacer á las convenciones puedan ser presentadas á este Consejo, con el objeto de que haga á la próxima Conferencia Panamericana las recomendaciones que juzgue del caso, para que las referidas convenciones se modifiquen de modo de recibir la ratificación de todos los Gobiernos.

Lo actuado por los Gobiernos de la Unión con referencia al estudio y ratificación de las convenciones y resoluciones mencionadas, según consta de los archivos de la Oficina Internacional y del Departamento de Estado de los Estados Unidos se indican en el memorandum anexo.

B 1. La resolución sobre arbitraje fué sometida á la Segunda Conferencia de La Haya, y por conseguiente no se necesita hacer otra gestion en la materia.

2. La resolución relativa á la reorganización de la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas depende en gran parte, si ha de tener éxito, de la acción favorable de los Gobiernos respectivos con respecto al aumento, en cincuenta (50) por ciento, de las cuotas con que contribuyen al sostenimiento de dicha Institucion, de acuerdo con la resolución unánime del Consejo Directivo aprobada en la sesión de mayo de 1907. La Comisión que suscribe recomienda á cada uno de los miembros del Consejo Directivo que se interese en

demostrar al Gobierno que representa la urgencia de que se apruebe el aumento indicado, de modo que pueda comenzar á regir el nuevo presupuesto desde el primero de julio de 1908. Como algunos de los Gobiernos no han satisfecho todavía cuotas atrasadas de varios años, también recomienda esta Comisión que los miembros del Consejo Directivo, representantes de dichos países, encarezcan á sus Gobiernos respectivos el saldo á la mayor brevedad de las cuotas atrasadas, de modo que no sufra la Oficina en su buena marcha por falta de fondos necesarios.

3. Por cuanto se refiere á la resolución relativa al nuevo edificio de la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas, se hacen constar los grandes adelantos alcanzados debido al generoso donativo de $750,000 de Señor ANDREW CARNEGIE. Pero como algunos de los Gobiernos no han satisfecho las cuotas correspondientes al edificio, se recomienda á los miembros del Consejo que representan á dichos países que se interesen con sus Gobiernos respectivos para que verefiquen, lo más pronto posible, el pago de dichas cuotas de modo que se pueda atender con ellas á los gastos de construcción.

4. Con referencia á la resolución que dispone el nombramiento de una comisión, dependiente del Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, para que gestione la aprobación de las resoluciones adoptadas por las Conferencias Internacionales Americanas, y que coadyuve con la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas en el desempeño de sus deberes en cada uno de esos países, se recomienda á cada uno de los miembros del Consejo Directivo que excite al Gobierno que representa para que cuanto antes se nombre la Comisión referida, y se comunique la Oficina los nombres de las personas que la componen.

5. En lo relativo á la resolución que dispone la creación de una Sección Especial de Comercio, Aduanas, y Estadística Comercial, como dependencia de la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas, la Comisión que suscribe recomienda que se autorice al Director para que haga los cambios y adiciones convenientes en el personal de la Oficina y los gastos que sean necesarios, dentro de los recursos de la misma, para que sin entorpecer sus trabajos regulares ponga en práctica lo dispuesto por la referida resolución.

6. La resolución relativa al cobro de deudas públicas fué sometida á la Segunda Conferencia de La Haya, de suerte que no hay otra gestión que hacer en el particular.

7. En lo tocante á la resolución que dispone la adopción ó ratificación del Tratado sobre el Ejercicio de las Profesiones Liberales, suscrito el 28 de enero de 1902 en la Segunda Conferencia celebrada en México, según los informes que existen en la Oficina, dicho tratado ha sido ratificado hasta hoy por las cinco Repúblicas Centroamericanas, Perú y Bolivia. Se recomienda que cada uno de los miembros del Con-

sejo Directivo pregunte á la mayor brevedad á su Gobierno cuál será la determinación que se tome con referencia á este asunto.

8. Respecto á la resolución relativa á las relaciones comerciales, se recomienda que el trabajo proyectado por la referida resolución se combine con la Sección de Comercio, Aduanas y Estadísticas Comerciales, y que se autorice al Director para que tome las medidas convenientes para obtener los datos.

9. Por lo que respecta á la resolución sobre futuras conferencias, se recomienda que se determine de una vez el lugar y la fecha del Cuarto Congreso Panamericano, de acuerdo con la resolución aprobada en la sesión de enero de 1908, por el Consejo Directivo, disponiendo que se reuna la conferencia en Buenos Aires, República Argentina, en 1910.

10. La resolución relativa al desarrollo de los recursos naturales y medios de comunicación en las diversas Repúblicas de América, queda comprendida en las recomendaciones referentes á la Sección de Comercio, Aduanas y Estadísticas Comerciales.

11. Referente á la resolución acerca de Policía Sanitaria, la Tercera Conferencia Sanitaria Internacional se reunió, como estaba resuelto, en la Ciudad de México, en los días 2 á 7 de diciembre de 1907. Muchas fueron las recomendaciones importantes que se aprobaron, pero aún no se han publicado las actas y los trabajos de la Conferencia. Se resolvió unanimamente que la próxima conferencia se reuna en San José, Costa Rica, en 1909. La Oficina Internacional estuvo representada en la Tercera Conferencia Internacional Sanitaria por Don FRANCISCO J. YÁNES, Secretario de aquélla, cuyo informe se publica en el número de enero del Boletín Mensual.

12. En relación á la resolución acerca del Ferrocarril Intercontinental, puede decirse que uno de los pasos más importantes que se han dado para la realización de este proyecto es la disposición contenida en la Convención sobre Comunicaciones firmada por los delegados á la Conferencia de Paz Centroamericana, que se reunió en Wáshington en el local de la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas en los meses de noviembre y diciembre de 1907. Dispónese en esta convención que cada uno de los Gobiernos signatarios nombre una comisión para estudiar y proponer las medidas necesarias para llevar á cabo el trabajo del Ferrocarril Intercontinental dentro de su propio territorio, y una vez aprobados los informes respectivos se abrirá un concurso por la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas para celebrar los contratos necesarios para la construcción de las líneas.

Con el fin de obtener de las Repúblicas Americanas interesadas en el proyecto del Ferrocarril Intercontinental informes exactos en este particular, se recomienda á cada uno de los miembros del Consejo Directivo que manifieste al Gobierno que representa la necesidad de que dicte las medidas conducentes para que en lo futuro se envien á la Oficina de las Repúblicas Americanas los datos que exige la referida resolución.

13. En cuanto á la resolución relativa á la industria del café, que dispone la celebración de una conferencia en la ciudad de São Paulo, Brasil, corresponde al Gobierno de dichó país tomar la iniciativa á este respecto.

14. La resolución relativa á las fluctuaciones del tipo de cambio, dispone que los diferentes Gobiernos hagan preparar un estudio detallado del sistema monetario vigente en cada uno de ellos y de las fluctuaciones del tipo de cambio, el cual se enviará á la Oficina Internacional, para que ésta prepare un resumen de dichos estudios, para la próxima Conferencia Panamericana. La Comisión que suscribe recomienda que se autorice al Director de la Oficina para que consulte con autoridades reconocidas en la materia y presente al Consejo Directivo un plan uniforme para hacer dichos estudios que se someterá á cada uno de los Gobiernos.

En conclusión, la Comisión que suscribe, habiendo desempeñado su cometido, recomienda que se declare terminada su gestión y que cualquier otra materia relacionada con lo antedicho sea sometida á la Comisión de Vigilancia del Consejo Directivo.

J. N. Léger.
Epifanio Portela.
Felipe Pardo.

Washington, 1 *de febrero*, 1908.

MEMORANDUM DE LO ACTUADO POR LOS GOBIERNOS DE LA UNIÓN CON REFERENCIA Á LA RATIFICACIÓN DE LAS CONVENCIONES Y RESOLUCIONES DE LA TERCERA CONFERENCIA PANAMERICANA, SEGÚN CONSTA DE LOS ARCHIVOS DE LA OFICINA INTERNACIONAL DE LAS REPÚBLICAS AMERICANAS Y DEL DEPARTAMENTO DE ESTADO DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS.

Convenciones.

Con fecha 2 de marzo de 1907 el Presidente de los Estados Unidos envió al Congreso las cuatro convenciones firmadas en Rio Janeiro. Hasta ahora sólo la de Reclamaciones Pecuniarias y la de Naturalización han sido ratificadas. Quedan pendientes las otras dos.[a]

El Presidente de la República Dominicana sometió al Congreso las cuatro convenciones. La única que aprobó dicho cuerpo en su última sesión fué la de Derecho Internacional.

El Gobierno del Salvador, ratificó en 11 de mayo de 1907, las cuatro convenciones.

El 27 de diciembre de 1907, el Brasil ratificó la Convención de Derecho Internacional, y se autorizó al Ejecutivo para que hiciera los gastos necesarios relacionados con la reunión de la Conferencia de Juristas en Rio Janeiro en este año.

[a] Fué ratificada la convención sobre Derecho Internacional—3 de Febrero de 1908.

El Presidente del Uruguay en un mensaje al Congreso de 27 de marzo de 1907, recomendó á dicho cuerpo que se aprobara la Convención de Derecho Internacional, y en su caso que se nombrará al Dr. Gonzalo Ramirez, representante en el Congreso de Rio Janeiro.

RESOLUCIONES.

El Gobierno de Chile, según nota del Ministro Americano en Santiago, fechada á 3 de julio de 1907, decidió nombrar la comisión encargada de gestionar la aprobación de las resoluciones de las Conferencias Internacionales Americanas.

La República del Salvador ha ratificado todas las resoluciones.

MUERTE DEL SEÑOR ARTHUR W. FERGUSSON.

En la última reunión celebrada por el Consejo Directivo de la oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas el día 5 de febrero de 1908, el Señor Ministro de Costa Rica propuso que el Consejo Directivo hiciera una demostración de pésame con motivo de la inésperada y bien sentida muerte del Señor Arthur W. Fergusson, Secretario Ejecutivo en Filipinas, que fué uno de los intérpretes oficiales y traductor de español en la Primera Conferencia Panamericana, y más tarde jefe de traductores de la Oficina Internacional durante muchos años. También fué el intérprete oficial de la Comisión de Paz que celebró el Tratado de Paris, mereciendo las más honrosas felicitaciones por la manera como desempeñó su cometido. El Señor Fergusson se separó de la Oficina para ir á desempeñar el puesto de intérprete y traductor oficial de la Comisión Civil en Filipinas, habiendo sido ascendido, por sus notables y meritorios servicios, al puesto que desempeñaba al tiempo de su muerte. Los Ministros de Cuba y Nicaragua apoyaron con calor la moción del Ministro de Costa Rica y el primero propuso que se comisionara al Director de la Oficina Internacional para expresar á la familia del finado Señor Fergusson la profunda pena con que el Consejo Directivo de la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas se habia impuesto de la prematura muerte del Señor Fergusson.

RELACIONES COMERCIALES DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS CON LA AMÉRICA DEL SUR.

En el verano de 1907 cuando el Profesor William R. Shepherd de la Universidad de Columbia de Nueva York hizo un viaje por la América del Sur, la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas le suplicó que hiciera ciertas investigaciones acerca de las relaciones comerciales de los Estados Unidos con los países

sudamericanos y que le proporcionara á la Oficina un informe sobre aquéllas. El Profesor SHEPHERD ha presentado una disertación extensa y completa. En esta edición del BOLETÍN se publican algunas de sus deducciones y extractos de su informe. En la sección inglesa de este BOLETÍN se encontrarán extractos más extensos de dicho informe.

El Profesor SHEPHERD dice "que nadie niega que el comercio de los Estados Unidos con la América del Sur no se aumenta como debiera aumentarse. Es igualmente cierto que el capital y la inmigración extranjeros son factores enteramente indispensables para el desarrollo y prosperidad de las Repúblicas en aquella parte del mundo, lo mismo que lo han sido para el desarrollo nacional de nuestro propio país."

El atraso del comercio norteamericano con las naciones sudamericanas, según la opinión del Profesor SHEPHERD, se debe á varias causas, tanto naturales como artificiales. Debe tenerse presente que, por razones geográficas, étnicas é históricas, tanto en el Continente Norte como en el Sur, las líneas de comunicación y de comercio se han desarrollado hacia el este y al oeste, pero no hacia el norte y hacia el sur. Los europeos, es decir, los españoles, ingleses, alemanes, franceses, é italianos, son los primeros que han invadido el campo, y por consiguiente han obtenido las ventajas que naturalmente surgen de este hecho.

Á fin de que el norteamericano pueda competir con éxito en el comercio de la América del Sur, es necesario, primero, que tenga lo que bien puede denominarse elementos comerciales ordinarios, tales como un transporte adecuado, y medios postales y financieros. El Profesor SHEPHERD agrega lo siguiente:

"Al solicitar datos de los exportadores norteamericanos que tienen un conocimiento práctico de la situación, se llega al conocimiento de dos hechos importantes. Primero, que nuestros medios de comunicación con la América del Sur son enteramente inadecuados, y, segundo, que los tipos de flete que se cobran por las mercancías que se envían á aquellos países son más altos que los que se cobran sobre las exportaciones de Europa por una distancia igual, y bajo las mismas condiciones de embarque. De seguro que es una perogrullada aseverar que los buques que conducen productos norte americanos casi todos navegan con banderas extranjeras, y por consecuencia la ganancia del transporte la obtienen sus dueños extranjeros. Pero haciendo caso omiso de este hecho, el número verdadero de dichos buques extranjeros y los medios de transporte que proporcionan, tanto á los pasajeros como á la carga, considerados en conjunto, son insuficientes, así como son más ó menos irregulares las fechas de sus salidas y llegadas. Los dueños europeos de líneas de vapores y de buques de vela, como encuentran más ganancia en el comercio directo de Europa á la América del Sur, bien pueden abandonar las exporta-

ciones de los Estados Unidos á aquella parte del mundo, al paso que hacen todo lo que está á su alcance para suministrar medios para llevar á cabo la exportación de los productos de sus propios países. Á propósito de lo que se acaba de exponer, cumple recordar que los tipos de precios actuales extranjeros sobre las mercancías que se envían por cualquiera línea directa de buques de los Estados Unidos á la América del Sur, ó en cualquier caso, á la costa oriental y á la parte sur de la costa occidental de aquel continente, se calculan sobre la base de lo que el exportador norteamericano tendría que pagar, embarcando primeramente sus mercancías á Europa, y, segundo, por enviarlas de Europa á la América del Sur. Por más que los tipos de flete que se cobran por las líneas directas de los Estados Unidos á la América del Sur pueden ser más bajos que los dos tipos de flete juntos que se cobran, es decir, de los Estados Unidos á Europa y de Europa á la América del Sur, dichos tipos de flete resultan realmente más altos que los que se cobran de Europa solamente. Así pues, acontece que, en igualdad de circunstancias, al exportador alemán ó inglés pagando, como lo hace, menos que el norteamericano por el transporte de sus mercancías, le es posible vender á precios más bajos que el norteamericano en el mercado sudamericano."

El Profesor Shepherd sugiere que se envíen agentes comerciales especiales de los Estados Unidos con el fin de estudiar las condiciones locales en todos los ámbitos de los Estados Sudamericanos. Estos agentes deben hablar bien el castellano ó el portugués, según sea el caso, y deben llevar consigo todos los impresos necesarios en el idioma del país donde hagan su propaganda. Si el costo de tales agentes fuese demasiado grande para una sola casa de comercio, el expresado Profesor indica que varias casas podrían unirse á fin de que dichos gastos no resultasen tan gravosos para una sola. "Como una ampliación de este plan, acaso sería conveniente á los exportadores americanos que estén interesados en el comercio con la América del Sur, organizar una especie de sindicato para llevar á cabo las operaciones generales de venta en cualquier país ó países determinados. Podrían establecer una Agencia y Depósito Central en el cual pudieran exhibirse muestras de sus mercancías, y podrían emplearse eficazmente sus circulares, catálogos y otros medios de proporcionar informes técnicos. Además, si cualquiera empresa nacional tuviese una exposición permanente de productos industriales en sus varias etapas de fabricación, las casas americanas que hacen negocios en ese país deben ponerse inmediatamente en comunicación con dicho establecimiento, ya sea por conducto de sus agentes, ó mediante el envío de los debidos informes acerca de las mercancías que fabrican."

En cuanto á la deficiencia del servicio de vapores, el Profesor SHEPHERD se expresa en los términos siguientes:

"El servicio postal entre los Estados Unidos y la costa oriental de Sud América, vía Europa, es bastante bueno, pero el que existe entre este país y la costa occidental de aquel continente es muy malo. Á veces se requieren siete semanas para que una carta de Nueva York llegue á Valparaíso. Si un vapor se detiene en el puerto, rara vez se trasborda la correspondencia, obteniéndose por resultado que de las dos cartas la que se envió últimamente suele llegar primero. Los pasajeros y la carga con frecuencia no salen mejor servidos. Los tipos que se cobran por el transporte por una distancia igual suelen variar de tiempo en tiempo. Además, no sólo es sumamente poca la velocidad de los vapores de la costa occidental, sino que con frecuencia surgen demoras mortificantes porque el capitán ó el oficial de sanidad de un puerto deja de hacer su visita acostumbrada hasta que le conviene. Por otra parte, las huelgas suelen ser algo frecuentes, dando esto por resultado la acumulación de mercancías frágiles en los muelles y playas. En tal caso, los comisionistas y demás interesados en las mercancías, suelen publicar avisos en los periódicos expresando que mientras continúe la acumulación no se harán responsables de las pérdidas ó perjuicios que reciba la mercancía."

Por regla general el comerciante sudamericano está acostumbrado á comprar á plazos largos. Puede decirse que esto no se hace exclusivamente en la América del Sur, sino que es la regla establecida en todos los países que aún no se han desarrollado por completo, y en la actualidad es la regla, en gran escala, en los Estados del Sur de los Estados Unidos, así como en las colonias británicas. Á fin de poder establecer este sistema de plazos, es necesario tener medios bancarios adecuados. Estos medios se le facilitan en gran manera al comerciante europeo que hace negocios en la América del Sur, pero en cuanto al comerciante norteamericano puede decirse que carece de ellos. Las exigencias del comercio le obligan á pedir que se le pague al contado en algunos casos en que de buen grado concedería un plazo si tuviera los medios bancarios debidos. En muchos casos estos hechos son suficientes para excluírle por completo del comercio sudamericano. En relación con lo que acaba de exponerse, el Profesor SHEPHERD dice lo que sigue:

"La carencia de bancos americanos en la América del Sur hace que las transacciones comerciales de nuestros ciudadanos en dicho continente estén más ó menos á merced de las sucursales de instituciones bancarias europeas cuyos esfuerzos naturalmente se encaminan á favorecer el comercio de sus respectivos países contra el nuestro. Dando por sentado que el establecimiento de bancos americanos facilitaría el comercio americano, porque lo pondrían en condiciones

de poder prescindir de las corporaciones europeas, no es menos cierto que dichas instituciones bancarias proporcionarían pingües ganancias á sus fundadores y directores. En relación con esto basta mencionar las ganancias—que varían desde un 8 hasta un 15 por ciento anual—que los bancos europeos obtienen en los cambios, libranzas y otros giros análogos.

"Los Estados Unidos no han celebrado con algunas de las Repúblicas sudamericanas ningún convenio mediante un tratado para la expedición de giros postales. Con este motivo el sudamericano que desea pagar cualquier artículo que haya recibido de los Estados Unidos, está obligado á efectuar el pago por conducto de alguna agencia europea. La demora y los gastos que semejante transacción ocasiona perjudica la importación de productos americanos."

Á pesar de estos hechos, el Profesor SHEPHERD opina que la situación de los Estados Unidos en cuanto al comercio sudamericano puede mejorarse mucho si se hace el debido esfuerzo en ese sentido. Es necesario que los agentes viajeros y vendedores conozcan el castellano y el portugués; que tanto los catálogos como las listas de precios se publiquen en estos idiomas y que la correspondencia también se lleve en ellos; que los agentes viajeros se pongan en directa comunicación con los comerciantes en vez de hacer los negocios por conducto de intermediarios extranjeros. Sobre este punto el Profesor SHEPHERD dice lo siguiente:

"Además, en vez de tomarse la molestia de ir al interior de dichos países, el agente viajero norteamericano por lo general se contenta con visitar las poblaciones de la costa y se pone en contacto con casas importadoras inglesas ó con establecimientos alemanes por el estilo, en los cuales se habla el inglés. Por medio de dicho agente viajero ó directamente por conducto de la misma casa norteamericana, con frecuencia se establecen agencias en los centros donde están precisamente nuestros principales competidores, en vez de confiar la dirección de dichas agencias á los hijos del país. Desde luego puede suponerse el gran beneficio que la casa alemana ó inglesa deriva por el hecho de enterarse de los secretos del comercio norteamericano. Aun en los casos en que haya sido establecida una agencia dirigida por los hijos del país, suele acontecer que la casa norteamericana espera hasta que la agencia ha creado un buen mercado para un artículo especial, y entonces encarga la venta del mismo á una sucursal nuevamente establecida de aquélla. Resentido por lo que juzga como un proceder injusto, el antiguo agente puede tener á bien impedir, si le es posible, la venta de un artículo cuya propaganda había hecho antes."

Al hacer los anuncios debe desplegarse mucho cuidado. El Profesor SHEPHERD cree que es enteramente inútil, en la mayor parte de los casos, publicar anuncios en los periódicos y revistas que salen á luz en los Estados Unidos, ó en cualquiera otra parte fuera de los países

con los cuales el comerciante desea hacer negocios, ya sea que estos periódicos ó revistas se publiquen ó no en los idiomas español y portugués. Los anuncios deben hacerse en los periódicos locales. El ex presado profesor dice lo que sigue:

"Á propósito de este asunto debe hacerse constar que todos los sudamericanos que leen los periódicos y revistas lo hacen con una avidez que no tiene ejemplo en los Estados Unidos, con la única excepción, acaso, de algunos distritos del país que quedan muy remotos. Suele leerse y comentarse desde el artículo de fondo más incisivo y picante hasta los anuncios más insípidos. El fabricante ó industrial norteamericano que desea conseguir el mercado sudamericano debe publicar sus anuncios en los principales periódicos, revistas ilustradas y diarios comerciales que se publican realmente en los países en los cuales esté interesado, y que sean dirigidos por hijos del país."

El Profesor SHEPHERD cree que es innegable que los comerciantes é industriales de los Estados Unidos tienen mucho que aprender en cuanto al embalaje y marcas de las mercancías que se envían á Sud América, y se expresa en los siguientes términos:

"Las mercancías que se envían de los Estados Unidos con frecuencia se embalan en tamaños y medidas y ostentando marcas que no se usan en la America del Sur. Á veces la caja, cajón, pipa, etc., es demasiado grande para el fin á que se dedica, obligando así al importador á pagar por un tamaño ó peso adicional en la aduana y en cualquiera otra parte. Acontece con alguna frecuencia que un fabricante norteamericano no se esfuerza mucho por resguardar sus consignaciones de la rotura, el goteo, ó robo. Enormes cajas, construídas de tablas delgadas de manera que resultan endebles, y desprovistas de precintas de hierro ú otros medios de seguridad, se llenan de mercancía muy pesada y se envían á la América del Sur para que las rompan y abran adrede los rapaces manipuladores de carga, ó se rompan accidentalmente al trasladarse de los alijadores ó muelles á los vapores ó buques de velas, ó viceversa. Cualquiera que haya observado la carga ó descarga de un alijador, especialmente en la costa del Pacífico de la América del Sur, y se haya fijado en la estafa y destrucción que con frecuencia ocurre como consecuencia de un embalaje deficiente, se explicará cuán negligentes son los exportadores norteamericanos en este particular. Además, el exportador norteamericano á menudo deja de asegurar suficientemente sus consignaciones contra la rotura, el goteo, ó el robo, ni tampoco procura protegerse de una manera adecuada contra las compañías de vapores extranjeras que conducen sus mercancías. El exportador norteamericano tampoco marca los artículos que exporta de la manera que debiera hacerlo. No sólo se dejan de hacer en los marbetes y se expresan erróneamente ó se colocan de una manera indebida las indicaciones

en cuanto á la forma, tamaño y contenido, etc., sino que las verdaderas direcciones de los consignatarios se escriben de una manera incorrecta ó se fijan de una manera tan deficiente que llegan á borrarse antes de que las mercancías lleguen á su destino."

ACTA CONSTITUTIVA DE LA FRATERNIDAD CENTROAMERICANA.

En la ciudad de Wáshington, á los 14 días del mes de diciembre de 1907, se reunieron, en el Hotel New Willard, los Señores Don ENRIQUE C. CREEL, Mr. WILLIAM I. BUCHANAN, Lic. Don LUIS ANDERSON, Don JOAQUIN BERNARDO CALVO, Lic. Don ANTONIO BATRES JÁUREGUI, Don VÍCTOR SÁNCHEZ OCAÑA, Dr. Don LUIS TOLEDO HERRARTE, Dr. Don POLICARPO BONILLA, Don E. CONSTANTINO FIALLOS, Dr. Don ANGEL UGARTE, Dr. Don JOSÉ MADRIZ, Dr. Don LUIS F. COREA, Dr. Don SALVADOR GALLEGOS, Don FEDERICO MEJÍA y Dr. Don SALVADOR RODRÍGUEZ G.

Á moción del Señor CREEL, y teniéndose en cuenta que la obra que ha acometido y llevado á cabo la Conferencia de Paz Centroamericana, no sólo encierra un importante programa internacional, para asegurar la paz, la unión y la armonía de aquellos pueblos hermanos, sino que también con ella se ha dado un gran paso en el campo de los principios, creando, por primera vez en el mundo, una corte permanente de justicia, que resuelva por la ley y la razón todas las cuestiones internacionales, que en muchos casos pudieran ser motivo de guerras;

Y como este ensayo interesa á la humanidad, que en su evolución de progreso viene persiguiendo el triunfo de los principios sobre la fuerza, las soluciones pacíficas sobre las luchas sangrientas, y el imperio de la razón y de la justicia como el más alto de sus ideales;

Y como la opinión pública sin duda contribuiría eficazmente á sostener y propagar esos principios, á darle mayor prestigio á la Corte y más popularidad y firmeza á sus fallos;

Por todas estas consideraciones, han convenido los signatarios en formar una "Fraternidad Centroamericana," de carácter científico, que haga la propaganda de estos principios, en conformidad á las siguientes bases, sus estatutos y reglamentos:

I. Queda establecida una sociedad denominada "Fraternidad Centroamericana," la cual tendrá como principal objeto trabajar por la paz, la armonía y el progreso de Centro América; procurar la subsistencia de la Corte de Justicia Centroamericana y el respeto á sus fallos; y, en general, hacer la propaganda de los principios consignados en las diferentes Convenciones de la Conferencia de Washington.

II. Á la Fraternidad Centroamericana podrán pertenecer no solamente los individuos presentes y los originarios ó vecinos de Centro

América, sino también todas las personas de buena voluntad que, por razón de simpatizar con los países centroamericanos, tener intereses en ellos, ó ligas con sus habitantes, ó haberse propuesto desarrollar, propagar y defender los principios de justicia internacional, deseen formar parte de la agrupación y sostener su obra.

III. En cada República de Centro América, en los Estados Unidos de América y en los Estados Unidos Mexicanos, habrá delegaciones, que se reunirán en los lugares que indiquen sus respectivos presidentes, para dar cuenta del resultado de su propaganda, para el cambio de ideas y para los acuerdos que estimen conveniente tomar para el buen éxito de la causa común.

IV. Las reuniones en cada República tendrán el carácter de asambleas ordinarias; y las generales, que se reunan en alguno de los países por acuerdo de los siete presidentes y á las que concurrirán las delegaciones, tendrán el carácter de asambleas extraordinarias.

V. En la orden del día se fijarán los asuntos que de preferencia han de tratarse en las asambleas ordinarias y extraordinarias, sin perjuicio de todos los demás que, con absoluta libertad, propongan los socios.

VI. Cada delegación se compondrá de un presidente, un vicepresidente, un tesorero, un secretario y tres vocales.

VII. En los estatutos y reglamentos se precisarán las facultades de las delegaciones y los deberes de los socios.

VIII. Habrá socios activos y socios honorarios, cuyo ingreso á la Fraternidad será aprobado por las delegaciones respectivas ó por las asambleas ordinarias ó extraordinarias.

IX. La Fraternidad establecerá un distintivo, cuyas condiciones señalarán los estatutos y que llevará las palabras "Fraternidad Centroamericana."

Enrique C. Creel.
Wm. I. Buchanan.
Luis Anderson.
J. B. Calvo.
Salvador Gallegos.
F. Mejía.
Antonio Batres Jáuregui.
Víctor Sánchez O.
José Madriz.
Luis F. Corea.
Luis Toledo Herrarte.
Salvador Rodríguez G.
P. Bonilla.
E. C. Fiallos.
Ángel Ugarte.

SESIÓN PRIMERA.

En la ciudad de Wáshington á las 12 m. del día 18 de diciembre de 1907. Reunidos en la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas los Señores Don ENRIQUE C. CREEL, Doctor LUIS ANDERSON, Don JOAQUIN BERNARDO CALVO, Lic. ANTONÍO BATRES JÁUREGUI, Don VÍCTOR SÁNCHEZ OCAÑA, Doctor LUIS TOLEDO HERRARTE, Doctor POLICARPO BONILLA, Don E. CONSTANTINO FIALLOS, Doctor ÁNGEL UGARTE, Doctor JOSÉ MADRIZ, Doctor LUIS FELIPE COREA, Doctor SALVADOR GALLEGOS, Don FEDERICO MEJÍA, y Doctor SALVADOR RODRÍGUEZ GONZÁLEZ, con el objeto de celebrar la primera sesión de la Fraternidad Centroamericana, organizada por acta de 14 de este mes, se procedió de la manera siguiente:

Primero. Por aclamación, se nombró Presidente de la Fraternidad Centroamericana al Señor Don ENRIQUE C. CREEL, quien tomó inmediatamente posesión de su cargo.

Segundo. El Señor Presidente nombró Secretario de la Sociedad al Dr. JOSÉ MADRIZ, que tomó posesión.

Tercero. Á moción del Señor Presidente, se nombró una comisión compuesta de los Señores Doctores MADRIZ y FIALLOS para redactar un proyecto de estatutos de la sociedad.

Cuarto. Á moción del Doctor BONILLA, fué agregado á la comisión Señor CREEL.

Quinto. á moción del Señor ANDERSON y por aclamación, se declaró al Señor CREEL Presidente Vitalicio de al Fraternidad Centroamericana, y Presidentes Honorarios de la misma al Excelentísimo Señor ELIHU ROOT, Secretario de Estado de los Estados Unidos de América, y al Excelentísimo Señor Don IGNACIO MARISCAL, Secretario de Estado de los Estados Unidos Mexicanos.

Sexto. Habiendo manifestado los Señores UGARTE y COREA la buena disposición del Hon. ROBERT BACON, Subsecretario de Estado de los Estados Unidos, de pertenecer como socio activo á la Fraternidad Centroamericana, se acordó por aclamación su nombramiento como tal, á moción del Señor Presidente CREEL.

Sétimo. Á moción del Señor ANDERSON, se acordó nombrar comisionados especiales de la Fraternidad Centroamericana á los jefes de las delegaciones á la Conferencia de Paz, para trabajar por la organización de la sociedad en sus respectivos países.

Octavo. Á propuesta del Señor Presidente, fueron nombrados socios activos de la Fraternidad Centroamericana en México, las personas siguientes: [Aquí la lista.]

Noveno. Á moción del Señor UGARTE, se acordó, que cada Delegación proponga en la sesión próxima los nombres de las personas que deban ser nombradas socios activos en su respectivo país, sin perjucio de lo que dispongan los estatutos y reglamentos sobre la admisión de nuevos socios.

Décimo. El Señor Presidente nombró una comisión compuesta de los Señores COREA y MEJÍA para poner en manos del Excelentísimo Señor ELIHU ROOT su nombramiento de presidente honorario.

Undécimo. Se acordó, á moción del Señor ANDERSÓN, la organización de un comité permanente de la sociedad en Wáshington, y que lo formasen los Señores CREEL, BUCHANAN y los cinco Ministros de las Repúblicas de Centro América residentes en esta ciudad.

Duodécimo. Á moción del Señor BATRES JÁUREGUI, se dió un voto de gracias al Señor CREEL por su generoso interés y sus benéficos esfuerzos en favor de Centro América.

Décimotercio. Á moción del Señor SÁNCHEZ OCAÑA, se nombró socio activo al Señor JOHN BARRETT.

Décimocuarto. Á mocián del Señor CREEL, se nombró socio Honorario al Señor ANDREW CARNEGIE.

Se levantó la sesión á la 1.30 p. m.

ENRIQUE C. CREEL,
Presidente.
JOSÉ MADRIZ,
Secretario.

ESTATUTOS DE LA FRATERNIDAD CENTROAMERICANA.

DEL NOMBRE Y OBJETO DE LA SOCIEDAD.

ARTÍCULO 1. El nombre de la sociedad es "Fraternidad Centroamericana."

ART. 2. Su objeto es de carácter social y científico y tendrá como fin principal de sus labores, procurar la paz, la armonía y el progreso de Centro América; estrechar sus relaciones con México, los Estados Unidos de América y otros países; y, en general, hacer la propaganda de los principios consignados en las convenciones de la Conferencia de Paz Centroamericana de Wáshington.

DEL REGIMEN DE LA SOCIEDAD.

ART. 3. Habrá una junta directiva ó delegación en cada una de las capitales de los países siguientes: Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, el Salvador, los Estados Unidos de América y Estados Unidos Mexicanos.

El gobierno, la dirección y la administración de la sociedad corresponden á dichas delegaciones ó juntas directivas, electas separadamente en sus respectivos países, en votación secreta, y compuestas de siete vocales cada una. Éstos durarán tres años en el ejercicio de sus funciones, y elegirán, de entre ellos mismos, inmediatamente después de su nombramiento, presidente, vicepresidente, tesorero y secretario.

ART. 4. Cada junta directiva se ocupará en hacer la propaganda en su propio país y con ese objeto promoverá reuniones sociales, dará

conferencias, hará publicaciones y cumplirá todas las funciones que le señalen el acta constitutiva, los estatutos y reglamentos interiores.

Art. 5. Los miembros de las juntas directivas continuarán con este carácter, aun después del plazo de tres años si no han sido sustituídos por nueva elección de otras personas.

Art. 6. Si ocurrieren vacantes en alguna de las juntas directivas, ésta las llenará eligiendo, de entre los socios, nuevos miembros que desempeñarán sus funciones hasta la próxima asamblea ordinaria.

Art. 7. El quorum de la junta directiva ó delegación lo formarán cinco vocales.

Art. 8. La junta directiva establecida en México, Distrito Federal, tendrá además el carácter de junta central ejecutiva y estará á su cargo la dirección general de todos los asuntos de la Fraternidad Centroamericana.

Art. 9. Las juntas directivas celebrarán sesión cada tres meses y siempre que lo acuerde su Presidente, y convocarán á una asamblea ordinaria una vez al año, por lo menos, así como á asambleas extraordinarias en el caso del artículo 10.

Art. 10. Cuando la mayoría de los presidentes de las juntas directivas se ponga de acuerdo, ó cuando el presidente vitalicio resuelva, acerca de la celebración de una asamblea extraordinaria, la junta central ejecutiva publicará la convocatoria, anunciando la fecha, lugar y hora de la reunión, sin perjuicio de la publicación correspondiente que haga la junta directiva de cada país.

Art. 11. Las juntas directivas informarán periódicamente á la junta central ejecutiva, del resultado de sus gestiones y de los nombres y residencias de los nuevos socios; remitirán las publicaciones oficiales y particulares que sean de interés para la sociedad, y, en general, le suministrarán todas aquellas noticias que puedan utilizarse para dar á conocer la riqueza natural de Centro América, su progreso material y su movimiento intelectual.

DEL PRESIDENTE Y VICEPRESIDENTE.

Art. 12. El presidente ó, en su defecto, el vicepresidente de la delegación presidirá las sesiones de la junta directiva y las asambleas ordinarias de la sociedad, excepto cuando el presidente vitalicio ó su delegado estuviere presente. En ausencia de dichos funcionarios, los miembros presentes designarán un presidente provisional.

Art. 13. El Presidente dirigirá las discusiones de la Junta Directiva y de las asambleas ordinarias, procurando la mejor armonía entre los vocales y socios, y hará efectivas las prescripciones del reglamento.

En general, el Presidente tendrá la representación legal y genuina de la sociedad y, junto con el Secretario, firmará la correspondencia y todos los documentos oficiales.

DEL TESORERO.

Art. 14. Son atribuciones del Tesorero:

(*a*) Recoger todas las sumas que deban entrar en la caja de la sociedad, custodiar éstas y pagar las cuentas sancionadas por la Junta Directiva y aprobadas por el Presidente con su visto bueno.

(*b*) Llevar un registro de los socios.

(*c*) Llevar los libros necesarios y consignar en ellos las cuentas en debida forma.

(*d*) Presentar á la Junta Directiva, en su sesión ordinaria, un resumen del estado del tesoro.

(*e*) Presentar á la asamblea ordinaria una memoria detallada del movimiento de fondos y situación financiera de la delegación.

(*f*) Entregar á su sucesor, á la conclusión de su cargo, los fondos, libros, papeles, documentos, comprobantes y cualquiera otra propiedad de la sociedad, que estén en su poder.

DEL SECRETARIO.

Art. 15. Al Secretario le corresponde:

(*a*) Redactar y firmar las actas de las sesiones de la Junta Directiva y de la asamblea ordinaria, las que serán firmadas también por el Presidente.

(*b*) Conservar en debida forma, para este efecto, los libros correspondientes.

(*c*) Custodiar los archivos y llevar la correspondencia.

(*d*) Citar para las sesiones de la Junta Directiva y para las asambleas ordinarias y extraordinarias.

(*e*) Llevar un registro de los socios.

(*f*) Suministrar al tesorero los nombres de los miembros electos y todos los datos que puedan servirle para la preparación de sus cuentas.

(*g*) Conservar y fijar el sello de la sociedad.

(*h*) Examinar, con dos miembros de la junta directiva, las cuentas de la tersoría cada seis meses, ó con más frecuencia si aquélla lo creyere conveniente.

(*i*) Entregar á su sucesor, á la conclusión de su cargo, todos los libros, papeles, documentos y cualquier otro objeto de la sociedad que estén en su poder.

DE LOS SOCIOS.

Art. 16. Los socios son activos y honorarios. Los socios activos pagarán una cuota mensual de 50 centavos oro americano á la tesorería de la junta directiva del país donde residan. Los honorarios estarán libres de este gravamen.

Art. 17. Los socios activos que no pagaren sus cuotas durante tres meses consecutivos dejarán de pertenecer á la sociedad.

Art. 18. Los socios activos y honorarios pueden ser de cualquiera nacionalidad y tienen los mismos derechos de voz y voto en las asambleas ordinarias y extraordinarias.

Art. 19. En las sesiones de una junta directiva ó delegación, á moción de cualquiera de los vocales, podrán admitirse nuevos socios, siempre que así lo acuerde la mayoría en votación secreta. En las asambleas ordinarias y extraordinarias, la elección de nuevos socios activos se hará por mayoría y en la misma forma, á moción de cualquiera de los socios.

Art. 20. Tanto los socios activos como los honorarios tendrán la obligación de hacer la propaganda del programa y principios de la sociedad.

Art. 21. Los socios deberán concurrir á las asambleas ordinarias y extraordinarias, y, de tiempo en tiempo, procurar reuniones sociales para conservar vivo y levantado y el espíritu de esta asociación.

Art. 22. Á moción de cualquiera Junta Directiva ó Asamblea General, la Junta Central Ejecutiva podrá nombrar socios honorarios á las personas que se hayan distinguido en su carrera pública ó privada y que puedan darle brillo á la Sociedad.

Art. 23. Cada socio deberá inmediatamente comunicar por escrito al Secretario el cambio que ocurra en su domicilio ó dirección.

Art. 24. Á cada socio se le enviará una copia de estos Estatutos, al comunicársele por escrito su nombramiento.

Art. 25. Los socios tienen derecho á un distintivo que llevará el siguiente lema "Fraternidad Centroamericana." La entrega del distintivo se hará junto con un diploma cuyo texto acordará la Junta Central Ejecutiva.

Art. 26. Los socios tendrán á honra portar su condecoración en los actos públicos; y á diario podrán usar un botón azul y blanco, como símbolo de la bandera de la antigua Federación Centroamericana.

DE LAS ASAMBLEAS GENERALES.

Art. 27. Las Asambleas Ordinarias se verificarán una vez al año por lo menos: la primera el 1° de abril de 1908, y las posteriores en la prima quincena del mes de enero de cada año. Las demás que se convoquen, se reunirán en la fecha que designen las Juntas Directivas.

Art. 28. Las Asambleas Extraordinarias tendrán lugar cada vez que por mayoría lo acuerden los Presidentes de las siete Juntas Directivas, ó cuando las convoque el Presidente Vitalicio.

Art. 29. En las Asambleas cada socio tendrá un voto y los acuerdos se tomarán por mayoría.

Art. 30. Las Asambleas Ordinarias serán presididas por el Presidente de la Junta Directiva, y las Extraordinarias por el Presidente Vitalicio, y en su ausencia, por la persona á quien delegue esa facultad.

ART. 31. En las Asambleas Generales, el Presidente nombrará, con la aprobación de la Asamblea, un Secretario y un Prosecretario.

ART. 32. En las Asambleas Ordinarias y Extraordinarias, se dará lectura á los informes que se hayan recibido de las Juntas Directivas; al que, en su caso, produzca la Junta Central Ejecutiva, y á las iniciativas que presenten los socios.

Tambien se leerán por sus autores, ó por los Secretarios, las producciones literarias ó científicas que los socios dediquen al brillo y lucimiento de esas sesiones.

ART. 33. Las Actas de las Asambleas Generales se firmarán por su Presidente y Secretarios, y se publicarán en el Anuario de la Fraternidad Centroamericana.

DEL PRESIDENTE VITALICIO.

ART. 34. Es Presidente Vitalicio de la Fraternidad Centroamericana, por el voto unánime de los fundadores, el Señor Don ENRIQUE C. CREEL.

ART. 35. Son atribuciones del Presidente Vitalicio:

(*a*) Ser Presidente nato de toda Junta Directiva y de toda Asamblea Ordinaria ó Extraordinaria en que estuviere presente.

(*b*) Delegar su representación como Presidente, en cualquier miembro de la Sociedad.

(*c*) Nombrar Delegados para el desempeño de comisiones especiales en todos los países donde se halle establecida la Fraternidad Centroamericana.

(*d*) Dictar toda disposición de carácter general, que tienda á la mejor organización, mantenimiento y progreso de la Sociedad.

DISPOSICIONES GENERALES.

ART. 36. La Junta Central Ejecutiva publicará un Anuario en que consignará las labores de cada Delegación y los acontecimientos que de alguna manera estén vinculados á la Sociedad.

ART. 37. Los Estatutos podrán ser reformados en cualquiera Asamblea Extraordinaria, por el voto de las dos terceras partes.

ART. 38. Cada Junta Directiva formará su Reglamento interior y podrá reformarlo cuando lo estime conveniente.

ART. 39. Por recomendación de cualquiera Asamblea Ordinaria ó Extraordinaria, la Junta Central Ejecutiva podrá acordar medallas y condecoraciones á las personas que se hayan distinguido por sus buenos servicios á la Fraternidad Centroamericana.

ART. 40. A solicitud de diez socios radicados en otros países, se podrán crear por la Junta Directiva á la que aquéllos hagan su manifestación, nuevas delegaciones, las cuales deberán funcionar de conformidad con el acta Constitutiva y éstos Estatutos; y, además, de acuerdo con su propio Reglamento interior.

Aprobados en la sesión del 21 de diciembre de 1907, celebrada en la ciudad de Washington por los socios fundadores y en la sesión del 13 de enero de 1908, celebrada por el Comité Permanente de la Sociedad.

ENRIQUE C. CREEL,
Presidente.
JOSE MADRIZ,
Secretari .

PRESIDENTE VITALICIO DE LA FRATERNIDAD CENTROAMERICANA.

Excmo. Señor Don ENRIQUE C. CREEL, Embajador Extraordinario y Plenipotenciario de los Estados Unidos Mexicanos.

PRESIDENTES HONORARIOS.

Excmo. Señor ELIHU ROOT, Secretario de Estado de los Estados Unidos de América.

Excmo. Señor Don IGNACIO MARISCAL, Secretario de Estado de los Estados Unidos Mexicanos.

SOCIOS HONORARIOS DE LA FRATERNIDAD CENTROAMERICANA.

Mr. ANDREW CARNEGIE, de los Estados Unidos; Hon. WILLIAM I. BUCHANAN, de los Estados Unidos; Don JOSÉ D. GÁMEZ, de Nicaragua; Lic. Don JUAN BARRIOS M., de Guatemala; Gral. Don DIONISIO GUTIÉRREZ, de Honduras; Lic. Don JOSÉ ASTÚA AGUILAR, de Costa Rica; Dr. Don MANUEL E. ARAUJO, del Salvador.

SOCIOS FUNDADORES DE LA FRATERNIDAD CENTROAMERICANA.

Excmo. Sr. Embajador Don ENRIQUE C. CREEL, de México; Hon. WILLIAM I. BUCHANAN, de los Estades Unidos; Dr. Don LUIS ANDERSON, de Costa Rica; Don JOAQUÍN BERNARDO CALVO, de Costa Rica; Lic. Don ANTONIO BATRES JÁUREGUI, de Guatemala; Don VÍCTOR SÁNCHEZ OCAÑA, de Guatemala; Dr. Don LUIS TOLEDO HERRARTE, de Guatemala; Dr. Don POLICARPO BONILLA, de Honduras; Don E. CONSTANTINO FIALLOS, de Honduras; Dr. Don ANGEL UGARTE, de Honduras; Dr. Don JOSÉ MADRIZ, de Nicaragua; Dr. Don LUIS FELIPE COREA, de Nicaragua; Dr. Don SALVADOR GALLEGOS, del Salvador; Don FEDERICO MEJÍA, del Salvador; Dr. Don SALVADOR RODRÍGUEZ G., del Salvador.

PRIMER CONGRESO CIENTÍFICO PAN-AMERICANO.

La Comisión Directiva del Cuarto Congreso Científico Latino-Americano (Primer Congreso Científico Pan-Americano) ha anunciado las comisiones de propaganda nombradas para cada una de las Repúblicas Americanas.

La comisión de los Estados Unidos se compone del Profesor Leo S. ROWE, de la Universidad de Pennsylvania; Profesor WILLIAM

R. SHEPHERD, de la Universidad de Columbia; WILLIAM HERBERT HOBBS, de Michigan; JOHN BARRETT, Director de la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas; ALBERT SHAW, de Nueva York; WILLIAM MORRIS DAVIS y CHARLES SARGENT, de Massachusetts; representantes de las Universidades de California, Chicago, Columbia, Cornell, George Wáshington, Harvard, Illinois, Johns Hopkins, Michigan, Minnesota, Pennsylvania, Princeton, Texas, Wisconsin y Yale.

Las bases y programa del Congreso son los siguientes:

Bases y programa del Cuarto Congreso Científico Latino-Americano (Primer Congreso Científico Pan-Americano) que se reunirá en Santiago el día 1° de diciembre de 1908.

ARTÍCULO 1°. Con arreglo á lo resuelto por el Tercer Congreso Científico Latino-Americano de Rio de Janeiro, se reunirá en la ciudad de Santiago, bajo los auspicios del Gobierno de Chile, el Cuarto Congreso Científico Latino-Americano (Primer Congreso Científico Pan-Americano), en el mes de diciembre de 1908.

Su inauguración se verificará el día 1° de dicho mes de diciembre y su clausura diez días después.

ART. 2°. Los trabajos de organización y funcionamiento del Cuarto Congreso quedan á cargo de una comisión directiva, compuesta: 1° de los miembros nombrados por el Tercer Congreso, en asamblea plena de 16 de agosto de 1905; 2° de los miembros elegidos por la misma comisión.

ART. 3°. La comisión directiva elegirá la mesa que ha de presidir sus trabajos, la cual se compondrá de un presidente, dos vicepresidentes, un secretario general, uno ó dos prosecretarios, un tesorero y un vicetesorero.

Habrá, asimismo, los intérpretes, oficiales de secretaría y demás empleados que se juzguen necesarios.

La mencionada comisión nombrará los presidentes honorarios que tenga á bien.

ART. 4°. La comisión directiva se subdividirá en subcomisiónes, cada una de las cuales se compondrá de un presidente y dos vocales nombrados por ella.

ART. 5°. Son atribuciones de la Comisión Directiva:

1°. Llevar á efecto la realización del Cuarto Congreso y representarlo ante el Gobierno de Chile y ante las Universidades y demás corporaciones científicas, nacionales ó extranjeras;

2°. Nombrar en las capitales de los Estados americanos Comisiones encargadas de coadyuvar á la realización del Congreso, de formar la lista de personas á quienes haya de invitarse á tomar parte en sus trabajos, de procurar la adecuada representación de sus respectivos países y de indicar las cuestiones que, por su manifiesto interés americano, hayan de ser sometidas al Congreso.

3°. Acordar los gastos y aprobar las cuentas antes de ser presentadas al Tribunal respectivo;

4°. Organizar el cuestionario definitivo, de acuerdo con los trabajos presentados por las Sub-Comisiones;

5°. Formar la nómina de los miembros del Congreso, en conformidad con lo dispuesto en el artículo 10;

6°. Nombrar los relatores que sean necesarios para exponer, ante las respectivas Secciones, el estado de la cuestión en los temas oficiales que considere de especial interés.

ART. 6°. Elegida que sea la Mesa Directiva del Congreso, la Comisión suspenderá el ejercicio de sus funciones, para reasumirlas cuando el Congreso haya sido clausurado. Tomará, entonces, á su cargo la publicación de los trabajos presentados y enviará poderes suficientes á los miembros de la nueva Comisión que se nombre para organizar el Quinto Congreso Científico Americano.

ART. 7°. Las Sub-Comisiones á que se refiere el artículo 4°. corresponderán á otras tantas Secciones del Congreso, y serán las siguientes:

1ª. De matemáticas puras y aplicadas;
2ª. De ciencias físicas;
3ª. De ciencias naturales y antropológicas;
4ª. De ingeniería;
5ª. De ciencias médicas é higiene;
6ª. De ciencias jurídicas;
7ª. De ciencias sociales;
8ª. De ciencias pedagógicas y filosofía;
9ª. De agronomía y zootecnia.

Cada una de estas subcomisiones podrá subdividirse en dos ó más, cuando lo juzgue necesario. Asimismo, podrán dos ó más de ellas reunirse en una sola.

ART. 8°. Á cada una de las subcomisiones incumbe:

1°. Organizar el cuestionario de la respectiva sección;

2°. Formar la nómina de los miembros de la misma;

3°. Recibir y clasificar los informes, estudios y comunicaciones que se envíen á la sección y designar el relator que deba dar cuenta al congreso de las conclusiones adoptadas por ella;

4°. Cuidar de que se dé cuenta de los trabajos que se la envien y que no hayan de ser leídos por sus autores;

5°. Instalar la respectiva sección;

6°. Recibir de la sección correspondiente los trabajos y ordenarlos para su publicación.

ART. 9°. El congreso se reunirá dentro de los tres días anteriores al de su inauguración, á fin de aprobar su reglamento interior y elegir la mesa definitiva.

En estas reuniones preparatorias funcionará la mesa de la comisión directiva.

ART. 10. Serán considerados miembros del congreso;

1°. Los delegados oficiales de los países que concurran;

2°. Los delegados de las universidades, institutos, sociedades y centros científicos, tanto nacionales como de otros países de la América;

3°. Las personas que concurrieren al congreso invitadas por la comisión directiva, á propuesta de las respectivas subcomisiones ó de las comisiones de los diversos países;

4°. Los adherentes al congreso que contribuyan con la cuota de una libra esterlina (£1) y sean aceptados por la comisión directiva.

Art. 11. Todos los miembros del congreso tendrán derecho á concurrir á las sesiones, á tomar parte en los debates y á un ejemplar de las publicaciones que se hicieren por la comisión directiva.

Art. 12. El pago de la cuota á que se refiere el número 4° del artículo 10, se hará efectivo al Tesorero de la Comisión Directiva, previa nota de la Secretaría General ó de las respectivas subcomisiones y antes de expedirse la respectiva tarjeta de incorporación.

Art. 13. De las sesiones plenas que celebre el Congreso serán solemnes las de su inauguración y clausura.

Las subcomisiones celebrarán, por separado, las reuniones que creyeren necesarias para la discusión de los asuntos á ellas sometidos.

Art. 14. Podrán ser nombrados miembros honorarios del cuarto Congreso los americanos de notoriedad científica que para esta distinción sean propuestos por la Comisión Directiva.

Art. 15. Los trabajos para el Congreso serán recibidos hasta el día 30 de septiembre de 1908.

Los autores que no hayan alcanzado á enviar oportunamente sus trabajos, deberán remitir á la Secretaría General el título de los mismos dentro del término fijado.

Art. 16. Cada subcomisión señalará, oportunamente, los puntos, instituciones ó establecimientos especiales en que hayan de verificarse las visitas y excursiones que deban hacer los miembros del Congreso, é indicará los medios de realizarlas.

La Comisión Directiva.

En relación con el programa á continuación se publica una carta del Presidente de la Comisión Directiva dirigida al Profesor Rowe:

[Traducción.]

Santiago, Chile, *julio 3 de 1907.*

"Señor L. S. Rowe,

"Presidente de la Academia Americana de Ciencias Políticas y Sociales, y Catedrático de Ciencias Políticas de la Universidad de Pensilvania.

"Muy señor mio: Tengo el honor de informarle que la Comisión Directiva del Cuarto Congreso Científico (Primer Congreso Científico Pan-Americano), en una sesión que celebró ayer, adoptó unánimemente la siguiente resolución:

"'Se resuelve que en vista del carácter pan-americano del Cuarto Congreso Científico que se ha de reunir en Santiago, Chile, el 1° de diciembre de 1908, la Comisión Directiva suplica respetuosamente al Señor L. S. ROWE, Presidente de la Academia Americana de Ciencias Políticas y Sociales, y Catedrático de Ciencia Política de la Universidad de Pensilvania, que celebre una conferencia con el Consejo Directivo de la Oficina de las Repúblicas Americanas y con el Director de la Oficina, con el fin de determinar hasta qué grado puede el Cuarto Congreso Científico facilitar los trabajos de la Cuarta Conferencia Pan-Americana que se celebrará en 1910.

"'Además, la comisión suplica al Señor ROWE que tenga una entervista con las autoridades de las universidades de los Estados Unidos, á fin de obtener su cooperación en los trabajos del Primer Congreso Científico Pan-Americano (Cuarto Congreso Científico).'

"Firmada por la Comisión Directiva.

"VALENTÍN LETELIER,
"*Presidente.*
"MANUEL EJIDO BALLESTEROS,
"*Vice-Presidente.*
"EDUARDO POIRIER.
"*Secretario General.*
"AUGUSTO VICUÑA S.,
"*Sub-Secretario.*
"ALEJANDRO ÁLVAREZ.
"DIEGO BARROS ARANA.
"ALEJANDRO BELTRÁN.
"MIGUEL CRUCHAGA.
"LUÍS ESPEJO.
"JOSÉ RAMÓN GUTIÉRREZ.
"ANSELMO HEVIA RIQUELME.
"VICENTE IZQUIERDO.
"OCTAVIO MAIRA.
"MARCIAL MARTÍNEZ.
"DOMINGO V. SANTA MARÍA.
"MIGUEL VARAS.

"La Comisión Directiva del Congreso tiene plena conciencia de la eficaz cooperación que usted puede prestar, estando inspirado, como efectivamente lo está, por los más levantados ideales de fraternidad entre los países del Continente Americano.

"Su cooperación constituye para la Comisión una garantía de que se hará todo cuanto sea posible por despertar interés en los Estados Unidos en los trabajos del Congreso, contribuyendo así grandemente hacia el éxito de sus labores. Estamos convencidos de que esta cooperación ha de significar un paso hacia adelante en la solución de

los importantes problemas que tanto interesan á todos los países de América, y que fortalecerá los vínculos de amistad que entre ellos existen.

"Ruego á usted acepte las seguridades de mi más distinguida consideración, y

"Quedo de usted muy sinceramente,

("Firmado). VALENTÍN LETELIER,
"Presidente.
"EDUARDO POIRIER,
"Secretario General."

VIAJE DE LA ESCUADRA DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS DE RÍO JANEIRO AL CALLAO.

Después de una estancia de nueve días en Río de Janeiro, la Armada de los Estados Unidos, al mando del Almirante R. D. EVANS, pasó en gran parada ante el Presidente PENNA, y el 22 de enero de 1908 fué escoltada hasta fuera de la bahía por los buques de guerra brasileños, y después de ser objeto de entusiásticas manifestaciones de cordialidad internacional por parte del pueblo y de las autoridades brasileñas, y terminado ya el canje de los últimos saludos de rúbrica, la Armada salió hacia el Estrecho de Magallanes para hacer su próxima escala en Punta Arenas. Cuatro días despues, es decir, el 26 por la mañana, la Armada se puso en comunicación por el telégrafo sin hilos con el escuadrón argentino al mando del Almirante HIPÓLITO OLIVA, que fué enviado por el Presidente FIGUEROA ALCORTA como una cortesía especial á fin de que encontrase y escoltase la Armada de los Estados Unidos en alta mar. Luego á la Armada se unió el escuadrón del Almirante OLIVA y la escoltó durante la noche y una parte del próximo día. Hubo un canje de cortesías y saludos. Al salir el 27 de enero, el escuadrón argentino pasó dos veces alrededor de la Armada de los Estados Unidos, y entonces se alejó llevando consigo las gracias del Almirante EVANS al Gobierno Argentino por esta cordialísima bienvenida y los buenos deseos manifestados hacia la marina y pueblo de los Estados Unidos al enviar sus buques de guerra para encontrar y saludar la Armada en alta mar.

Entre tanto, la flotilla de torpederos, al mando del Teniente H. I. CONE, que salió de Río de Janeiro el 21 de enero, llegó á Buenos Aires el 26, escoltada por la flotilla argentina que había sido enviada á encontrarla en alta mar. Pasaron cuatro días en la Capital Argentina, y durante su estancia las autoridades y el pueblo de Buenos Aires les dispensaron á los oficiales y tripulación de la Marina de los Estados toda clase de atenciones y cortesías. El Teniente CONE y sus ayudantes fueron recibidos el 27 de enero por el Presidente

MUELLE DEL PUERTO DE TALCAHUANO, CHILE.

A view of the water front of the Port of Talcahuano, Chile.

FIGUEROA ALCORTA, el Sr. ESTANISLAO S. ZEBALLOS, Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores, el Almirante ONOFRE BETBEDER, Ministro de Marina y el General ROSENDO M. FRAGA, Ministro de la Guerra.

El mismo día el Presidente FIGUEROA ALCORTA le envió el siguiente cablegrama al Presidente ROOSEVELT:

"BUENOS AIRES, *enero 27 de 1908.*

"Excmo. Sr. TEODORO ROOSEVELT,

"*Presidente de los Estados Unidos de América,*

Wáshington.

"He recibido hoy con viva simpatía la visita de los oficiales de la flotilla de torpederos de los Estados Unidos. En testimonio del respeto y de la simpatía que ella inspira al pueblo americano y á su illustre Presidente, á la vez que dos divisiones de las escuadras mayores cambian saludos en el océano en nombre y en honor de las dos Repúblicas, la nación y las autoridades demuestran á porfía su cariño á los representantes de la gloriosa marina de la Unión. Al agradecer hondamente á V. E. el envío de la flotilla á Buenos Aires, renuevo á V. E. la expresión de las profundas é inalterables simpatías de la República Argentina hacia los Estados Unidos de América y hacia su illustre mandatario. Hago votos por la felicidad de V. E. y por el viaje venturoso de la Escuadra del Pacífico.

"FIGUEROA ALCORTA,

Presidente de la República Argentina."

El mismo día, el Sr. ZEBALLOS envió el siguiente cablegrama al Secretario ROOT:

"Al Secretario de Estado ELIHU ROOT,

" *Wáshington.*

"He tenido la honra de recibir en mi Despacho á los oficiales de los torpederos americanos. Esta visita, celebrada con vivas simpatías por el pueblo y las autoridades, revive los recuerdos gratísimos del viaje de Mr. ROOT á Sudamérica. La República Argentina y su Gobierno agradecen profundamente á Mr. ROOT la sincera amistad de que les ha dado frecuentes pruebas antes y después de aquel viaje memorable. Estos nuevos testimonios de cordialidad internacional coinciden con un hecho económico notable: El comercio entre nuestros dos países, cuyo crecimiento ha sido y es motivo de las preocupaciones constantes de las dos Cancillerías, ascendió en 1907 á la suma, sin precedente, hasta ahora, de $40,000,000. Queda así asegurada una nueva era de prosperidad para las relaciones de las dos Repúblicas amigas. Hago votos por el bienestar de la nación americana, por la salud y facilidad de su ilustre Secretario de Estado y porque vientos propicios y mares bonancibles lleven á la Escuadra del Pacífico á las costas de la patria.

"E. S. ZEBALLOS,

" *Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores.*"

Estos mensajes de cortesía y cordialidad internacional, fueron contestados de la manera siguiente:

"WÁSHINGTON, *enero 29 de 1908.*

"Á Su Excelencia El Presidente ALCORTA,

"*Buenos Aires.*

"Me ha sido sumamente grato recibir vuestro cordial mensaje acerca de la visita de los torpederos, y me han conmovido especialmente las pruebas de cordialidad y simpatías internacionales desplegadas en el canje de cortesías navales, y en la bienvenida que el Gobierno y pueblo de vuestro país le dieron á nuestros oficiales y tripulación. Estas cordiales atenciones tanto cuando se trata de naciones como de individuos, contribuyen poderosamente á fortalecer los vínculos de amistad; y todo el pueblo de los Estados Unidos desea vivamente que existan estos vínculos entre ambas Repúblicas.

"THEODORE ROOSEVELT."

"WÁSHINGTON, *enero 29 de 1908.*

"Excmo. Señor Don E. S. ZEBALLOS,

"*Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores, Buenos Aires.*

"Vuestro cablegrama del 27 llegó á mi poder con alguna demora. Me apresuro á asegurarle á V. E. que este Gobierno y pueblo aprecian profundamente la cordial recepción que se le hizo á nuestra flotilla de torpederos. Me place especialmente el grato recuerdo que V. E. conserva de mi visita en 1906, y me halaga la creencia de que además del placer personal que me proporcionó, ha contribuído á demostrar la íntima amistad de ambos pueblos y á aumentar el deseo de mantener relaciones mutuamente cordiales y beneficiosas. Reitero á V. E. las seguridades de mi más distinguida consideración personal.

"ELIHU ROOT,

"*Secretario de Estado de los Estados Unidos.*"

El 30 de enero las autoridades chilenas divisaron la armada cerca del Cabo de las Vírgenes, y el 1° de febrero entró en el puerto de Punta Arenas. El crucero chileno "Chacabuco," que estaba en el puerto para recibir la armada, llevaba á bordo al Almirante SIMPSON de la Marina Chilena, al Sr. JOHN HICKS, Ministro de los Estados Unidos en Chile y á otros personajes. El Almirante SIMPSON, que es Subsecretario de Marina, fué nombrado en una Misión Especial por su Gobierno para dar la bienvenida al Almirante EVANS, sus ayudantes y tripulación, en representación del Gobierno de Chile. La flotilla de torpederos que salió de Buenos Aires el 30 de enero, llegó á Punta Arenas el 4 de febrero. Tanto la armada como la flotilla permanecieron en dicho puerto hasta la noche del 7 de febrero, en que salieron hacia el oeste por el Estrecho de Magallanes, precedidos del "Chacabuco." Durante su estancia en Punta Arenas, los chilenos, presididos por el Almirante SIMPSON, les dispensaron á la armada y á la flotilla toda clase de atenciones, y el 2 de febrero

dicho almirante dió un banquete á bordo del "Chacabuco" á los oficiales de la armada. Hubo el canje de ceremonias de rúbrica con el "Chacabuco," con el crucero inglés "Sappho"—que á la sazón estaba en el puerto—y con los oficiales del puerto. El Sr. MORITZ BRAUN, Agente Consular de los Estados Unidos, dió un baile en honor de los visitantes, y el Gobernador CHAIGNEAU, del Territorio de Magallanes, le dió una recepción á los americanos visitantes, á la cual concurrieron más de 400 personas.

Después de pasar el Estrecho, la armada se dirigió hacia el norte, y el 14 de febrero llegó é hizo parada frente á Valparaíso. En este lugar se habían hecho extensos preparativos para una gran parada de la armada.

El Señor JOHN HICKS, Ministro de los Estados Unidos, envió el siguiente cablegrama al Departamento de Estado de los Estados Unidos acerca de este acontecimiento:

"La gran parada de la armada americana que se efectuó esta tarde ante el Presidente MONTT tuvo un éxito completo. Los buques de guerra americanos desfilaron en el puerto y salieron de éste precedidos por el "Chacabuco." Al llegar á la fortaleza que está á la entrada del puerto, toda la armada hizo un saludo simultáneo, y al pasar en gran parada, el buque de guerra chileno "Baquedano," á bordo del cual iba el Presidente y su Gabinete, cada buque de la armada hizo un saludo de veintiún cañonazos separadamente. El día se declaró de fiesta; el tiempo fué bellísimo, y millares de personas formaban hileras en las colinas, y todos los buques que se hallaban en el puerto estaban decorados con banderas.

"Cuando la armada se perdió de vista, recibí un aerograma del Almirante EVANS, anunciándome que todos estaban bien, y enviando un voto de gracias al Presidente MONTT."

El Almirante EVANS envió el siguiente aerograma al Almirante SIMPSON, que estaba á bordo del "Chacabuco:"

"El jefe de la armada del Atlántico suplica á usted que, en su nombre, en el de sus oficiales y tripulación, haga presente al Presidente MONTT cuánto aprecian el honor que él les ha confirido al dignarse á prescenciar la gran parada de la armada americana frente á Valparaíso. Á lo expuesto debo agregar la expresión de mi más distinguida consideración personal hacia usted, y espero tener el placer de verle otra vez. Hago sinceros votos por su felicidad."

El Almirante SIMPSON contestó como sigue:

"Gracias. Se me han dado instrucciones para que transmita á usted las gracias que personalmente le da el Presidente MONTT por sus sinceros votos. Yo y todos mis oficiales les damos al Almirante EVANS y á los oficiales de la armada americana una cordial despedida y les deseamos una travesía feliz y próspera."

Los mensajes canjeados posteriormente entre los Presidentes MONTT y ROOSEVELT se publicarán en el BOLETÍN de marzo.

CONFERENCIA SOBRE EL DESARROLLO DE LA AMÉRICA DEL SUR.

En una conferencia dada el 6 de febrero de 1908, por el Sr. WILLIAM E. CURTIS, ex-Director de la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas, ante los estudiantes de la Universidad de Jorge Wáshington, se trazó gráficamente un contraste entre las condiciones actuales y las que prevalecían anteriormente en toda la América Latina. Se llamó la atención hacia la nueva actividad comercial é industrial que ahora se advierte, y se incitó á los Estados Unidos á fin de que tome una parte más activa en este movimiento.

En los $2,000,000,000 que representa el comercio extranjero de la América Latina, la proporción que en la actualidad corresponde á los Unidos Unidos es como una cuarta parte, por cuanto en 1906 su comercia con aquélla ascendió á $520,000,000. En el último año común de 1907, hubo un aumento de $58,279,201, pero el Sr. CURTIS opina que esta suma todavía no representa de ninguna manera el límite de las posibilidades de este comercio.

Se hace referencia especialmente á la falta de medios de comunicación como una de las varias causas á las cuales se atribuye el hecho de que los Estados Unidos todavía no han obtenido y mantenido una posición absolutamente dominante en los mercados de la América del Sur. La iniciativa que se advierte y que tiene por objeto establecer una completa reciprocidad en las relaciones comerciales entre las dos secciones de América, fué descrita desde su principio—durante la administración del Presidente ARTHUR—hasta la memorable visita del Secretario ROOT en el verano de 1906, y también se hicieron comentarios encomiásticos de los trabajos de la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas. El canje de visitas por parte de hombres de ciencia y literatos, así como los trabajos de ingenieros y peritos mineros norteamericanos, que tanto han contribuído al desarrollo de los recursos latentes de la América Latina, han dado por resultado una mejor inteligencia en cuanto á las condiciones sociales y económicas. Se hizo referencia á la preeminencia alemana en la esfera comercial é industrial de muchas Repúblicas latino-americanas, y se describieron los métodos empleados para obtener este fin.

Los $300,000,000, valor de las importaciones que los Estados Unidos hicieron de la América Latina en 1906, y á los cuales se refirió el Sr. CURTIS, en 1907 mostraron un aumento de $17,000,000, y el valor de las exportaciones que en el período anterior ascendió á $220,000,000, también mostró un aumento de $20,000,000, lo cual demuestra que la tendencia general de las relaciones comerciales es, sin duda, hacia un aumento en el valor de dicho comercio.

Sabido es que la mayor parte de las importaciones que los Estados Unidos hacen de la América Latina consiste de materia prima, incluso el café, el cacao, azúcar, tabaco, frutas, etc. En el café solamente, de un valor total de más de $71,000,000 de importaciones, cerca de $69,000,000 representan las compras que se le hicieron á la América Latina. Más de la tercera parte del cacao que se usó en las varias preparaciones de chocolate en los Estados Unidos en 1907, procedió de la América del Sur, en tanto que el azúcar sin purgar procedente de Cuba constituyó prácticamente el total de 3,872,221,473 libras que se importaron de Cuba, y el valor del tabaco importado de la misma procedencia representó la mitad del valor total de las importaciones, que ascendió á $24,310,048.

El conferencista también hizo comentarios desfavorables acerca de lo que él denomina un estado comercial "triangular" entre la América del Norte y la del Sur, puesto que lo que los Estados Unidos pagan por los productos de la América del Sur se gasta mayormente en mercados europeos, en vez de gastarse natural y recíprocamente en las mercancías de un país más cercano.

LA PRODUCCIÓN DE AZÚCAR EN LA AMÉRICA LATINA.

La "Revista Brasileña" correspondiente al 3 de diciembre de 1907 publica un cuadro que muestra la producción de azúcar en varias regiones de la América Latina, así como la producción europea. Sólo se tienen en cuenta las cifras relativas á 1907–8, pero se reproducen como una comparación con la producción del año anterior.

	1907–8.	1906–7.
	Toneladas.	*Toneladas.*
América Central	24,000	19,000
República Argentina	120,000	119,000
Brasil	185,000	215,000
Cuba	1,260,000	1,428,000
Haití y la República Dominicana	60,000	60,000
México	115,000	108,000
Perú	145,000	140,000

REPÚBLICA ARGENTINA.

LA RENTA DE IMPUESTOS INTERNOS EN 1907.

La Aministración General de Impuestos Internos de la República Argentina, publicó el 2 de enero de 1908 un cuadro estadístico, en el cual se especifica lo recaudado por diversos conceptos durante el año de 1907, en comparación con el de 1906. De dicho cuadro ha sido tomado el siguiente resumen.

La cantidad total de las recaudaciones de impuestos internos durante 1907 fué de 43,292,359.36 pesos papel y 28,012.98 pesos oro. En 1906 se recaudaron 39,977,524.62 pesos papel y 25,861.42 pesos oro. La recaudación ha señalado, pues, un aumento de 3,319,724.50 pesos papel, sobre 1906. Las cantidades totales se distribuyen entre los diversos conceptos en la siguiente forma:

Impuestos.	1906.	1907.
	Pesos papel.	*Pesos papel.*
Alcoholes	16,615,869.84	16,877,037.20
Tabaco	16,700,975.20	18,221,779.30
Cerveza	3,081,804.25	3,128,390.92
Fósforos	2,262,325.98	3,399,047.68
Naipes	159,352.93	167,775.96
Vinos y bebidas artificiales	76,163.86	109,331.14
Seguros	403,352.31	568,548.41
Específicos	677,690.25	820,448.65
Total	39,977,524.62	43,292,359.36
	Pesos oro.	*Pesos oro.*
Seguros	25,861.42	28,012.98

LOS SERVICIOS DE CORREOS Y TELÉGRAFOS EN 1907.

Á continuación se publican datos estadísticos relativos al movimiento general de la administración de correos y telégrafos de la República Argentina durante el año de 1907.

Hay instaladas en la República 2,138 oficinas, distribuídas en la siguiente forma: Capital Federal, 52; Provincia de Buenos Aires, 581; de Santa Fé, 297; de Córdoba, 309; de Entre Ríos, 132; de San Luis, 76; de Mendoza, 71; de San Juan, 36; de Santiago del Estero, 81; de Corrientes, 66; de Tucumán, 81; de Salta, 66; de Catamarca, 54; de Jujuy, 33; de La Rioja, 47; Territorios del Norte, 32; Territorios del Sur, 124.

El movimiento postal fué de 625,330,960 piezas, que arroja un aumento de 73,316,063 piezas sobre el del año anterior. Se calcula que, siendo la población de la República de 6,190,300 habitantes, corresponde á cada uno en el movimiento general un promedio de 101 piezas.

El servicio de valores declarados en la capital tuvo un movimiento de 73,263 piezas, con un valor total de $5,260,068.29. Los giros postales importan las siguientes sumas: Internos emitidos, $8,491,507.37; internacionales emitidos, $254,219.68; abonados, $209,213.50.

Durante el año se trasmitieron por las líneas del telégrafo nacional 10,420,012 despachos.

Hasta el 31 de diciembre estaban al servicio de la administración de correos y telégrafos 9,251 empleados.

Las rentas de ambos servicios fué como sigue: Correos, $7,578,180.27; telégrafos, $2,255,374.90; total, $9,833,555.17; aumento sobre el año anterior, $746,961.76.

EXPORTACIONES DURANTE LOS ONCE PRIMEROS MESES DE 1907.

Las principales exportaciones de la República Argentina durante los once primeros meses de 1907 fueron como sigue, en comparación con las del mismo período del año de 1906:

Artículos.	1907.	1906.
Cueros vacunos:		
Secos.....número..	2,068,715	2,614,568
Salados.....id....	1,475,537	1,506,046
Cueros de caballo:		
Secos.....id....	92,974	164,590
Salados.....id....	34,494	18,613
Cueros ovinos.....fardos..	54,125	51,706
Cerda.....id....	4,604	4,445
Sebo en pipas.....	25,774	19,193
Sebo en cubas.....	79,297	63,121
Cueros de cabra.....fardos..	2,196	8,737
Lana.....id....	324,654	317,489
Trigo.....toneladas..	2,616,876	2,216,333
Maíz.....id....	1,211,452	2,247,112
Lino.....id....	770,763	495,957
Harina.....id....	116,450	114,845
Afrecho.....id....	174,228	158,101
Salvado.....sacos..	26,553	59,316
Semillas oleaginosas.....id....	165,296	185,359
Heno.....fardos..	743,132	1,382,842
Quebracho.....toneladas..	293,441	256,822
Extracto de quebracho.....id....	51,115	55,070
Mantequilla.....cajas..	91,710	143,412
Carneros congelados.....número..	2,685,256	2,751,797
Carne de vaca.....cuartos de res..	1,601,837	1,855,667
Cebada.....toneladas..	141,872	49,120

CONTRATO PARA LA VENTA DEL FERROCARRIL ANDINO.

El 13 de diciembre de 1907 el Presidente de la República Argentina envió un mensaje al Congreso Nacional en el cual expone lás condiciones de un contrato firmado ad referendum por el Ministro de Obras Públicas de dicha República y los representantes de los ferrocarriles de Buenos Aires y Rosario, y el Central Argentino. Con arreglo al artículo 15 de dicho contrato, la empresa del Central Argentino se obliga á comprar todas las líneas del Ferrocarril Nacional Andino, así como los terrenos, edificios, material rodante y fijo, los materiales que haya en depósito, los almacenes ó talleres y todos los demás enseres y accesorios del ferrocarril. Se ha fijado el precio de $27,828,000 en moneda nacional, pagaderos en ocho abonarés de igual suma, con un interés de un 5 por ciento anual, que se vencerán en períodos sucesivos de noventa días.

El acuerdo se declará nulo y sin ningún valor, á menos que sea aprobado por el congreso actual en sesión extraordinaria.

PRESUPUESTO MUNICIPAL DE BUENOS AIRES.

El 31 de diciembre de 1907 se aprobó el presupuesto municipal de la capital argentina para el año de 1908. La cantidad total presupuesta para gastos asciende á 25,396,965 pesos, que se distribuye en la siguiente forma: Sueldos, 8,954,760 pesos; subvenciones, 1,167,200 pesos; servicio de la deuda, 2,552,918 pesos; gastos generales,

7,665,000 pesos; comisión municipal, 212,560 pesos, y presupuesto extraordinario, 4,838,207 pesos. El aumento de gasto sobre 1907 es de 1,600,000 pesos, pero en dicho año se pagaron en sueldos 800,000 pesos que no figuraron en el presupuesto, por lo que en realidad el aumento es la mitad de la suma primeramente indicada. Los ingresos están calculados en 24,946,850 pesos, á cuya cantidad hay que añadir la de 2,289,794 pesos de ingresos extraordinarios, lo cual hace un total de ingresos de 27,226,644 pesos, que arroja un superávit de 1,829,679 pesos.

BOLIVIA.

LA GOMA EN LA PROVINCIA DE LARECAJA.

[Datos tomados de la "Revista del Ministerio de Colonización y Agricultura."]

En las frondosas selvas que cubren los valles y quebradas de los caudalosos rios Conzata, Camata, Mapiri, Tipuani, Mariapu, Challana y otros menos importantes de Bolivia, se encuentran un número de diferentes clases de árboles, arbustos y varias especies de moras que producen diferentes clases de goma.

La especie principal de estas plantas productoras de goma es la *Hevea brasilensis*, que produce la mejor clase de goma que en la actualidad se conoce en el comercio, encontrándose la mayor parte de estos árboles en las márgenes de los precitados ríos y en los bajíos adyacentes. Las otras especies de plantas productoras de goma que se encuentran en esta región no han sido explotados aún, debido tanto al hecho de que la calidad de la goma que de aquéllas se obtienen no se conoce bien en el comercio, como á la gran escasez de brazos que existe en esta parte de Bolivia.

El número de árboles de goma varía considerablemente en los diferentes centros productores de goma. En algunas regiones se encuentran hasta cien árboles por hectárea de terreno, al paso que en otros puntos resulta difícil encontrar una docena de dichos árboles en cada hectárea de terreno. El número mayor de *Hevea brasilensis* crece en las faldas de los cerros que reciben directamente los rayos del sol de la mañana.

Sorata, capital de la Provincia de Larecaja, es el centro de la industria gomera en la parte de Bolivia á que se ha hecho referencia. Esta ciudad tiene como 2,000 habitantes y está situada al pie del majestuoso Illimani, que es uno de los picos cubiertos de nieve más altos de la Cordillera de los Andes. Sorata se encuentra en la línea de la ruta comercial que conduce al noroeste de Bolivia, y es una ciudad progresista y emprendedora, donde la vida es relativamente barata, y es un centro de contratistas de obreros para la recogida ó pica de goma, el corte de la cáscara de quina, la recogida de café, etc.,

y donde se distribuyen las provisiones y mercancías á los habitantes de los valles cercanos. El tiempo que se requiere para ir á lomo de mulo ó bestias de carga desde dicha ciudad á las plantaciones ó zonas de goma, varía desde cuatro hasta diez días.

Á los recogedores de goma se les suministran las herramientas necesarias, que están obligados á devolver al vencimiento de sus contratos, y se les pagan desde 65 hasta 75 bolivianos por cada 100 libras de goma que se entreguen en la oficina de la plantación de goma en el centro ó zona donde trabajen. Al precio que la goma se cotiza actualmente en Europa, 1 quintal de goma en Sorata vale como 180 bolivianos.

Los valles y bajíos en donde están situadas las fincas de goma de la Provincia de Larecaja, son susceptibles de un gran desarrollo. Todo lo que se necesita es capital y brazos para explotar la riqueza natural del suelo. Para dar una idea de la fertilidad del terreno en los distritos productores de goma de Bolivia, basta decir que los gruesos troncos que se colocan en el terreno y sobre los cuales se construyen las casas con techos de palma, con el transcurso del tiempo echan raíces, retoñan, crecen y cubren con verdes hojas estas pintorescas moradas.

BRASIL.

CONTINUACIÓN DE LAS CONCESIONES ARANCELARIAS Á LOS PRODUCTOS DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS.

El día 11 de enero de 1908 el Congreso brasileño votó en favor de la continuación, durante todo el año de 1908, de una rebaja de un 20 por ciento sobre ciertas importaciones de los Estados Unidos, de acuerdo con la ley del 30 de junio de 1906.

COMERCIO EXTRANJERO EN DIEZ MESES DE 1907.

El valor total de las importaciones hechas por puertos brasileños en los diez meses que terminaron en octubre de 1907, ascendió á 528,425:602$ ó sean como $165,000,000, en comparación con 388,-793:093$ ó sean como $130,000,000, en el mismo período de 1906.

En los diez meses de 1907, el valor de las exportaciones ascendió á 744,153:755$ ó sean $230,000,000, contra 596,715:999$, ó sean $200,000,000, en los diez meses del año anterior.

Así pues, se demuestra que en este último período ha habido un aumento de $35,000,000 en el valor de las importaciones, y de $30,-000,000 en el de las exportaciones, en tanto que el valor de las exportaciones de productos del país excedió en $65,000,000 al de las importaciones.

En los diez meses de 1907, las exportaciones de moneda acuñada ascendieron á $20,000,000, en comparación con $6,000,000 en los mismos meses del año anterior.

En los diez meses de referencia de 1907, la renta de aduana arroja un aumento de un 22 por ciento.

PROPAGANDA Á FAVOR DE LOS PRODUCTOS DEL PAÍS.

Uno de los artículos de la ley número 401, que fué sancionada por el Congreso brasileño el 10 de diciembre de 1907, autoriza al Departamento de Industrias y Obras Públicas para que gaste 4,000,000$ á fin de abrir un crédito ó hacer las operaciones de crédito necesarias con el objeto de desarrollar en los países extranjeros el consumo de diferentes productos agrícolas y minerales del Brasil, concediendo primas y subvenciones por dicha propaganda.

Las subvenciones se concederán mayormente á las razones sociales y á los particulares:

(*a*) Que en los lugares donde ya haya casas de comercio haciendo negocios de café en grano, establezcan por su cuenta y riesgo tostadores de café en los cuales este producto pueda venderse al pormenor ó servirse como se hace en los restaurantes de Río de Janeiro.

(*b*) Que establezcan en dichos puntos ó en las cercanías, casas en las cuales el café pueda venderse molido ó listo para tomarse, habiéndose comprado en los precitados establecimientos tostadores.

(*c*) Que establezcan, en las localidades donde no haya razones sociales que hagan negocios de café, y mayormente en los lugares dondehay pocos habitantes, establecimientos que tengan un pequeño tostador donde el café pueda venderse molido ó ya preparado para beberlo.

Idéntico sistema de subvenciones se adoptará respecto de los establecimientos que exhiban muestras de otros productos brasileños, tales como la hierba mate, cacao, azúcar, tabaco y sus productos, acompañados de las debidas circulares descriptivas que traten ácerca de su origen, precio, etc.

Se adjudicarán primas á las razones sociales ó individuos que á la terminación de cada semestre presenten pruebas, que el Gobierno juzgue satisfactorias, de haber aumentado el consumo de los productos de que se trata.

Al Gobierno se le autoriza también para que establezca y mantenga la propaganda en pro de los productos del país en relación con los consulados brasileños establecidos en el extranjero, y también para organizar un Departamento de Inspección que estará bajo la dirección de los Cónsules respectivos, quienes á fin de cada año presentarán informes relativos al progreso que se haga en dicha cuestión al Ministerio de Industrias y Obras Públicas.

Además de los elementos indicados en los párrafos que anteceden, el Gobierno puede emplear otros que siempre han de tener un carácter comercial, como por ejemplo, conceder, una rebaja máxima de un 20 por ciento en los derechos de importación sobre los artículos que no se produzcan en el Brasil y que procedan de países extranjeros, que, por virtud de convenios ó tratados comerciales conceden, durante un período por lo menos de tres años, una exención ó rebaja adecuada en sus aranceles á los productos brasileños.

La riqueza mineral del país también ha de ser objeto de una propaganda análoga bajo la dirección del Gobierno.

COLOMBIA.

EXPLOTACIÓN DE LA TAGUA EN BOSQUES NACIONALES.

Con fecha 26 de diciembre de 1907, el Presidente Reyes, de la República de Colombia, dictó un importante decreto en virtud del cual la explotación de la tagua en los bosques nacionales, situados en las hoyas de los Ríos Atrato y León y en la costa del Golfo de Urabá, podrá llevarse á cabo por individuos ó entidades particulares sin necesidad de concesiones ó permisos especiales, bajo las siguientes condiciones: (*a*) Cada tonelada de tagua pagará por derecho de exportación, $2 oro; (*b*) el pago deberá hacerse en la aduana respectiva desde el 1° de abril de 1908.

RESTRICCIONES EN LAS IMPORTACIONES DE CARNES CONSERVADAS.

En conformidad con una resolución que fué aprobada recientemente por la Junta de Sanidad de Colombia, se prohibe la importación á la República de toda clase de carnes para cuya conservación se usen antisépticos. Las carnes destinadas al consumo en Colombia pueden conservarse mediante el empleo del cloruro de sodio, nitrato de potasa, el calor (por el procedimiento modificado de Appert) ó la refrigeración.

En tal virtud, al Consulado Colombiano en Nueva York se le han enviado instrucciones á fin de que no certifique ninguna factura que contenga carnes conservadas á menos que dicha factura sea acompañada de un certificado de buena fe en el cual se haga constar terminantemente que no se han usado antisépticos, y que las carnes se han preparado para la exportación tal como lo exige la ley.

COSTA RICA.

AFORO DE LOS CARTUCHOS DE ESCOPETA Y FULMINANTES.

Por decreto del Presidente GONZALEZ VÍQUEZ, de Costa Rica, fechado el 4 de enero de 1908, los cartuchos de escopeta y los fulminantes se aforarán de la manera siguiente, á partir del mencionado día:

[Por kilogramo.]	Colones.
Cartuchos de metal sin cargar	2.50
Cartuchos de metal cargados	.75
Cartuchos de cartón sin cargar	5.00
Cartuchos de cartón cargados	1.00
Fulminantes	5.00

CUBA.

INFORME DEL GOBERNADOR PROVISIONAL PARA EL AÑO 1907.

El Gobernador Provisional de la República de Cuba, nombrado de acuerdo con el tratado celebrado entre la misma y los Estados Unidos, dió publicidad el 12 de enero de 1908 á su informe anual al Secretario de Guerra de los Estados Unidos, en el cual trata extensamente de las condiciones económicas que han prevalecido en la Isla desde la revolución de 1906 hasta la fecha.

Como el ejercicio del poder legislativo por el Jefe Ejecutivo de la República está en armonía con el estado de cosas en la Isla, las sesiones del congreso fueron suspendidas temporalmente hasta que sean elegidos los miembros del cuerpo legislativo, de conformidad con nuevas listas de registro que se hagan por medio de un censo general.

El 8 de mayo de 1907 se dictó un decreto que dispuso el levantamiento de un censo "para fines electorales y estadísticos," censo que ha sido efectuado y cuya publicación se hará tan pronto como se hayan comprobado y arreglado los datos recogidos. Á causa de las demoras inevitables que origina la preparación de las listas, el poner en vigor ciertas leyes electorales y la organización de las juntas de elección, es probable que las elecciones provinciales y municipales no puedan celebrarse antes de abril ó mayo de 1908.

Según las actuales condiciones lo demuestran, la situación económica de la República es satisfactoria. En octubre del año de 1906 se temía que la revolución había destruído el crédito financiero de la República; se creyó que la prolongada sequía había perjudicado grandemente las cosechas de caña de azúcar, de tabaco, de frutas y de legumbres; un temporal devastó la Isla durante el mes y se creyó que había destruído por completo las cosechas de tabaco y de azúcar.

La opinión general era de que los ingresos de aduanas disminuirían y que las rentas del fisco no serían suficientes para hacer frente á las obligaciones y los gastos corrientes del Gobierno. Los resultados fueron todo lo contrario de lo que se esperaba. La Isla produjo más azúcar que nunca; la cosecha de tabaco fué relativamente pequeña pero de calidad superior y se cotizó á precios hasta ahora los más altos que se han registrado en la historia de la industria en Cuba. Las cosechas de frutas y legumbres fueron abundantes y demostraron un aumento satisfactorio en área de terrenos cultivados, en comparación con los años anteriores, y, por más que la producción disminuyó á causa de la sequía, los precios fueron más subidos, y, por lo tanto, el resultado fué satisfactorio para los productores. Los ingresos de aduanas aumentaron considerablemente, y el estado del tesoro público continuó siendo excelente. Teniendo en cuenta que estos resultados son de un año precedido por una revolución y un temporal, y que abarca un período de pánico y depresión universal en los negocios y las finanzas, y de huelgas y cierres de fábricas que paralizaron por meses las industrias tabacalera y constructora, y que obstruyeron otras empresas industriales y comerciales, se podrá formar una idea de la admirable riqueza y de los innumerables recursos de la Isla.

El valor aproximado de las mercancías importadas durante el año económico de 1906–7 fué de $96,673,989, cantidad que, comparada con la del año 1905–6, acusa una disminución de $7,721,603. Las exportaciones estuvieron avaluadas en $110,764,937, valor que arroja un aumento de $5,565,622 sobre el del año económico anterior.

El proyecto de colocar el servicio sanitario bajo la inspección del Gobierno nacional recibió la aprobación del público, por cuanto todos comprenden que la higiene de la Isla ejerce una influencia muy grande en el desarrollo del comercio, y lo mismo ha sido por lo que respecta á la construcción de caminos y las mejoras de puertos. Los principales productos de Cuba—azúcar, tabaco, maderas, frutas, legumbres y minerales de hierro—se venden en los mercados extranjeros, por lo que tienen que ser trasportados desde el punto de su producción á las bahías de la costa. Existen, por lo menos, cuarenta bahías que, á un costo pequeño, podrían ser mejoradas suficientemente para permitir la entrada de buques de alta mar. En la actualidad sólo seis puertos se hallan en esa condición y ninguno de ellos está adecuadamente equipado para el rápido despacho de mercancías. Estos puertos están en comunicación con el interior por medio de ferrocarriles y con las costas por medio de embarcaciones. En muchas partes de la Isla los medios de comunicación son aún deficientes, por lo cual el trasporte de mercancías es costoso. Se han dado órdenes al Departamento de Obras Públicas para que prepare un proyecto general de un sistema de caminos macadamizados, que consista de una carretera de este á oeste y con ramales

de norte á sur que terminen en los puertos de las seis provincias en que se halla dividida la República. En dicho proyecto deberán estar incluídas también obras de mejora en los mencionados puertos con el fin de que estén provistos de los medios necesarios para el despacho adecuado y rápido de mercancías, y la construcción de faros en donde fueren necesarios. Tres son los objetos principales por los que se proyectan estas reformas: El desarrollo del país, la reducción de los gastos causados por las deficiencias de los medios de comunicación y el mejoramiento de las condiciones industriales dando trabajo á un número de obreros.

Es urgente la necesidad de mejoras municipales, calculándose que se necesitarán por lo menos $75,000,000 para llevarlas á cabo en los diversos ayuntamientos.

Con referencia al estado de la industria azucarera, el Gobernador MAGOON dice que la riqueza de Cuba depende de sus productos agrícolas, y el principal es el azúcar. La estación del corte y de la molienda dura desde mediados de diciembre hasta principios de la estación de las lluvias, que empieza generalmente en mayo. Esta estación del año es el período del crecimiento y de la cosecha del tabaco, de las frutas y de las legumbres; una vez recogidas esas cosechas, queda poco que hacer en los ingenios de azúcar y en las haciendas, por cuya razón un setenta y cinco por ciento de los trabajadores se quedan sin empleo por espacio de seis meses cada año, así es que el problema económico de más importancia en Cuba es el dar trabajo á estos obreros durante dichos meses.

En 1903 el precio del azúcar fué muy subido, y la producción la mayor que se había registrado hasta entonces. Se fomentaron más ingenios, y los cañaverales se plantaron teniendo más en cuenta las ganancias que los gastos; se abrieron créditos innecesarios y se hicieron gastos exorbitantes con resultados desastrosos, si bien temporales. Ahora, sin embargo, el dinero que fué distribuído por el Gobierno ha sido gastado; han vencido los pagarés firmados para el dinero prestado para la construcción de ingenios y la plantación de la caña, y el período de la liquidación se fijó hace más de un año. La industria azucarera está, por lo tanto, en condición floreciente y puede hacer frente á todas las demandas de la liquidación. La opinión general es la de que la cosecha del presente año será de 1,150,000 toneladas, y que, á consecuencia de la disminución habida en la producción de otros países del mundo, el precio será más elevado que el de la actualidad.

El informe hace mención del deseo, expresado frecuentemente por los hacendados, de que se establezca un banco de agricultura por el estilo del que funciona en México, y se están estudiando cuidadosamente las razones presentadas en pro y en contra del proyecto.

El número de reclamaciones originadas por la revolución de agosto de 1906 fué de 12,057—más de la mitad por caballos—cuya cantidad total asciende á $1,688,106.76, de los cuales han sido adjudicados por la Junta de Reclamaciones $738,428.39. El costo total de la revolución fué de $8,634,116.64.

REGLAMENTACIÓN DEL EJERCICIO DE LA FARMACIA.

Con fecha 31 de diciembre de 1907, el Gobernador Provisional de Cuba dictó un decreto que todos los que se dedican al ejercicio de la farmacia en la República sin poseer título de licenciado ó doctor, y que cuenten con cinco ó más años de práctica, demuestren su competencia ante un tribunal de exámenes constituído de la manera dispuesta en el decreto. El tribunal de exámenes expedirá á cada aspirante que haya sido aprobado un certificado como "Práctico en Farmacia," con el cual tendrá derecho á ejercer la profesión en la Isla.

La fecha en que entrará en vigor este decreto se determinará más adelante.

CHILE.

RENTAS ADUANERAS EN ONCE MESES DE 1907.

Las aduanas de la República de Chile recaudaron durante los primeros once meses del año 1907 una renta total de 107,361,051 pesos y 19 centavos, cifra que, comparada con la del mismo período de 1906, arroja un aumento de 10,289,371 pesos y 24 centavos. Lo percibido en el mes de noviembre de 1907 ascendió á 6,495,577.06 pesos, que arroja un aumento de 1,028,380 pesos y 78 centavos, respecto de la cantidad recaudada en el mismo mes de 1906.

PROMULGACIÓN DE MODIFICACIONES EN LOS DERECHOS DE ADUANA.

La proyectada modificación de los derechos de aduana sobre el ganado vacuno, lanar, y ciertos tegidos, que el Gobierno chileno ha estado estudiando, según se anunció en el Boletín Mensual de diciembre de 1907, ha sido sancionada por el Congreso y promulgada como ley. La suspensión de los derechos sobre el ganado vacuno, y la rebaja de un 50 por ciento sobre otros artículos determinados, empezará á regir dentro de seis meses.

ESTADOS UNIDOS.

COMERCIO CON LA AMERICA LATINA EN 1907.

El valor total del comercio entre los Estados Unidos y la América latina en el año común de 1907, ascendió a $558,279,201, las exportaciones, $240,553,068 y las importaciones, $317,726,133, en comparación con $521,311,077 en 1906, y $493,669,785 en 1905. Así pues, se muestra un aumento de $36,968,124 en el último período anotado, en comparación con los doce meses anteriores.

El valor del comercio con la América Central en 1907 ascendió a $45,087,355 contra $38,690,379 en 1906, lo cual muestra un aumento de $6,396,976. El valor del comercio entre México y los Estados Unidos en los dos períodos de referencia ascendió á $124,698,413 y $114,273,188, respectivamente, ó sea un aumento de $10,425,225 en 1907 respecto de 1906.

El valor del comercio entre los Estados Unidos y Cuba en 1907 ascendió á $144,973,116 contra $131,544,878 en el año anterior, mostrándose así un aumento de $13,428,238 en el último año. El valor del comercio entre Haití y los Estados Unidos en 1907 y 1906, ascendió á $4,366,273 y $4,302,755, respectivamente, mostrándose así un pequeño aumento de $63,518 en 1907. Las condiciones en cuanto á la República Dominicana fueron algo mejores, puesto que el valor del comercio en 1907 y 1906 ascendió á $5,860,693 y $5,735,717 respectivamente, lo cual muestra un aumento de $124,976, en 1907 respecto de 1906.

En 1907 el valor total del comercio de toda la América del Sur ascendió á $233,293,351, según aparece en la lista relativa al comercio de los Estados Unidos, contra $226,764,160 en 1906, ó sea un aumento de $6,599,191, debido mayormente al aumento en las exportaciones al Brasil que le compró á los Estados Unidos $4,452,191 más que en 1906. La distribución de las importaciones y exportaciones por países, así como los artículos, se expresan detalladamente en los cuadros copiados de los datos recogidos por la Oficina de Estadística de los Estados Unidos y que se encontrarán en la página 367.

COMERCIO EXTRANJERO EN 1907.

Las cifras publicadas por la Oficina de Estadística de los Estados Unidos correspondientes al año de 1907, muestran que el valor total del comercio extranjero ascendió á $3,346,684,960, es decir, $1,423,289,693 de importaciones, y $1,923,395,267 de exportaciones, ó sea un aumento de $227,931,954, en comparación con $3,118,745,006 á que ascendió el valor total del comercio extranjero en 1906, distribuído como sigue: $1,320,501,572 de importaciones, y $1,798,243,434 de exportaciones. Por consiguiente, en 1907 el valor del comercio extranjero excedió en $500,105,574 al del año anterior, que sólo a scendió á $477,741,862.

Del valor total de las importaciones en 1907, más de la mitad, ó sean $736,959,040, procedieron de Europa, lo cual representa un aumento de más de $35,000,000 en comparación con 1906. El aumento de $26,000,000 que se advierte en este ramo del comercio con la América del Norte, México representa más de $5,000,000, y la América Central más de $2,000,000. El valor de las importaciones de la América del Sur sigue prácticamente sin ningún cambio, por cuanto en 1907 ascendió á $147,680,943, y $147,941,781 en 1906. Sin embargo, ambos años muestran un aumento como de $3,000,000, en comparación con 1905. El valor de las importaciones de Asia muestra un aumento de más de $19,000,000; el de las de Oceanía muestra un aumento de más de $9,00,000 y el de las de África muestra un aumento de más de $10,000,000

En la lista de exportaciones se advierte claramente que la mayor parte de éstas se hizo á Europa, por cuanto el valor de dichas exportaciones ascendió á $1,313,045,045, de un valor total de exportaciones de $1,923,395,267, ó sea un aumento de más de $67,000,000 en el valor de las exportationes, comparado con 1906. El valor total de las exportaciones á la América del Norte ascendió á más de $36,-000,000, en los cuales México representa más de $5,000,000 y la América Central más de $4,000,000. Toda la América del Sur compró mercancías por valor de $85,612,408, contra $78,822,379 en 1906, lo cual muestra un aumento de más de $6,000,000. El valor de los embarques que se hicieron á Ásia representa un aumento de $10,000,000; el de los que se hicieron á Oceanía representa un aumento de $5,000,000 y el de los que se hicieron á África representa un aumento de $500,000.

El siguiente es el valor oficial de las importaciones y exportaciones en los dos años de referencia:

[Oro americano.]

	Importaciones.		Exportaciones.	
	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.
Europa	$700,067,050	$736,959,040	$1,246,573,163	$1,313,045,045
América del Norte	240,709,681	267,133,933	325,886,319	362,180,385
América del Sur	147,941,781	147,680,943	78,822,379	85,612,408
Asia	196,369,212	216,233,770	89.075,358	99,127,195
Oceanía	22,962,203	32,566,935	39,516,547	44,549,490
África	12,451,645	22,715,072	18,369,668	18,880,744
Total	1,320,501,572	1,423,289,693	1,798,243,434	1,923,395,267

El valor de las importaciones de oro en el año de referencia ascendió á $143,398,066, ó sea una disminución de $12,181,314 respecto de 1906, en tanto que el valor de las exportaciones ascendió á $55,215,681, ó sea un aumento de $8,506,523, respecto de los doce meses anteriores. El valor de las importaciones de plata en el año de referencia ascendió á $46,013,776, contra $44,227,941 en 1906, y el de las exportaciones

del mismo metal ascendió á $61,225,866 y $60,957,091, en 1907 y 1906 respectivamente.

En 1907 los buques de vela que entraron en los puertos de los Estados Unidos representaron $2,905,768 de toneladas, y salieron un total de 3,070,065. El tonelaje de los vapores fué como sigue: entraron 35,513,482 toneladas, en comparación con 32,454,853 en 1906, y salieron 35,186,499 toneladas contra 31,749,576 en el año anterior.

EL ESTADO LEGAL DE LOS CIUDADANOS NATURALIZADOS.

El 13 de enero de 1908 el Senado de los Estados Unidos ratificó la convención que fué firmada en Río de Janeiro el 13 de agosto de 1906 por los delegados de los Gobiernos representados en la Tercera Conferencia Internacional de Estados Americanos, por virtud de la cual convención se establece el estado legal de los ciudadanos naturalizados que vuelven á domiciliarse en el país de su origen.

La expresada convención fué sometida á la consideración del Presidente de los Estados Unidos por el Secretario de Estado, el día 1° de 1907, y fué trasladada al congreso para que éste tomase la debida determinación.

La convention contiene los cuatro artículos siguientes:

"ART. I. Si un ciudadano nativo de cualquiera de los países firmantes de la presente convención, y naturalizado en otro de éstos, renovase su residencia en el país de su origen, sin intención de regresar á aquel en el cual se hubiere naturalizado, se considerará que reasume su ciudadanía originaria, y que renuncia á la ciudadanía adquirida por dicha naturalización. Este artículo comprende no sólo al ciudadano ya naturalizado, sino también á los que se naturalicen después.

"ART. II. La intención de no regresar se presumirá cuando la persona naturalizada resida en el país de su origen por más de dos años. Pero esta presunción podrá ser destruída por prueba en contrario.

"ART. III. Esta convención se declarará vigente en los países que la ratifiquen tres meses después de la fecha en que comuniquen dicha ratificación al Gobierno de los Estados Unidos del Brasil; y si fuere denunciada por cualquiera de ellos, contiuuará en vigencia un año más, á contar desde la fecha de dicha denuncia.

"ART. IV. La denuncia de esta convención por cualquiera de los Estados signatarios, se hará ante el Gobierno de los Estados Unidos del Brasil, y sólo surtirá efecto respecto del país que la hiciere."

DISTANCIAS RELATIVAS ENTRE LOS PUERTOS DEL ATLÁNTICO Y DEL PACÍFICO POR TIERRA Y POR MAR.

Según las cifras compiladas por la Oficina de Estadística de los Estados Unidos, las diferentes distancias que hay entre Nueva York y San Francisco son las siguientes: Por tierra hay 3,191 millas; por la

vía de Tehuantepec hay 4,415 millas; por la vía de Panamá hay 5,305 millas, y por el Estrecho de Magallanes hay 13,089. De Nueva York á Puerto Townsend directamente hay una distancia de 3,199 millas; por la vía de Tehuantepec hay 5,190 millas; por la vía de Panamá hay 6,080 millas, y por el Estrecho de Magallanes hay 13,848 millas. De Nueva York á Honolulú directamente, por la vía de San Francisco, hay una distancia de 5,288 millas; por la vía del Puerto Townsend hay 5,569 millas; por la de Tehuantepec hay 5,806 millas; por la de Panamá hay 6,686 millas, y por el Estrecho de Magallanes hay 13,269 millas.

LA PRODUCCIÓN DE LANA EN 1907.

Según cálculos publicados por la Asociación Nacional de Fabricantes de Lana, la producción de dicho artículo en los Estados Unidos durante el año de 1907 fué de 298,294,750 libras, por valor de $78,263,165. La producción de 1906 fué de 298,915,130 libras, valoradas en $79,721,383. El número de ovejas en estado de ser equiladas está calculado en 38,864,932, en comparación con 38,540,798 en 1906.

MÉXICO.

COMERCIO EXTERIOR DURANTE LOS CUATRO PRIMEROS MESES DE 1907–8.

Según datos publicados por la sección de estadística del Departamento de Hacienda y Crédito Público de la República Mexicana, el valor de las importaciones durante los cuatro primeros meses de 1907–8 (julio á octubre de 1907), ascendió á $82,798,007.66 en moneda mexicana, suma que, comparada con la de $68,374,700.19 en que estuvieron avaluadas las del mismo período del ejercicio anterior, demuestra un aumento de $14,423,307.47 en favor del corriente. El valor de las importaciones que se hicieron durante el mes de octubre de 1907 fué de $21,890,617.23, que en comparación con $18,282,732.61 del mismo mes de 1906, representa un aumento de $3,607,884.62.

Las exportaciones estuvieron avaluadas en la cantidad de $86,373,450.26 en moneda mexicana, que arroja un aumento de $13,604,458.35, comparada con la de $72,768,991.91 á que ascendió el valor de las despachadas durante los mismo meses de 1906–7. Los productos que se exportaron durante el mes de octubre de 1907 representaron un valor de $21,568,413.86, comparado con el $19,001,191.17 de las exportaciones del mismo mes de 1906, es decir, un aumento de $2,567,222.69.

RENTAS ADUANERAS DEL PRIMER SEMESTRE DE 1907-8.

Según datos oficiales publicados recientemente, las aduanas de la República de México recaudaron durante le primer semestre de 1907–8 las cantidades que se expresan en el cuadro que se publica á continuación, dándose también las cifras correspondientes al mismo período de 1906–7:

	Primer semestre del año—	
	1907-8.	1906-7.
	Pesos.	*Pesos.*
Derechos de importación	28,323,792.28	24,757,267.08
Derechos de exportación	476,195.05	524,240.70
Derechos de puerto	691,838.65	519,841.31
Total	29,491,825.98	25,801,349.09

BASE EN PLATA DE LOS IMPUESTOS DE TIMBRE Y ADUANA EN FEBRERO DE 1908.

La circular que publica mensualmente el Departamento de Hacienda y Crédito Público de México anuncia que el precio legal por kilogramo de plata pura durante el mes de febrero de 1908 será de $35.90, con arreglo á los cálculos hechos de acuerdo con el decreto de 25 de marzo de 1905. Este precio servirá de base para calcular el impuesto de timbre y los derechos de aduanas.

EL CULTIVO DEL ALGODÓN Y LA FABRICACIÓN DE ARTÍCULOS DE ALGODÓN.

Según las cifras que se publicaron recientemente, el repartimiento de la contribución de renta interna que se impondrá á las diferentes fábricas de hilaza y tejidos de algodón en toda la República para el semestre que termina en junio de 1908, ascenderá, en globo, á 1,280,608 pesos, que equivalen aproximadamente á $640,304 en moneda americana.

El Sr. A. L. M. Gottschalk, Cónsul General de los Estados Unidos en la Ciudad de México, anuncia que una de las industrias mexicanas más productivas y al mismo tiempo mejor desarrolladas es la fabricación de hilaza y tejidos de algodón.

La producción actual en al distrito de Laguna sólo representa un 50 per ciento de la del año de 1906–7, y el abastecimiento total del algodón doméstico no será suficiente para satisfacer las exigencias de las fábricas mexicanas en 1908, hasta que se recoja la cosecha en el otoño.

Es probable que se requieran de 25,000 á 30,000 de pacas antes del 1° de septiembre de 1908, cantidad que ha de depender del consumo de las fábricas. Es probable que este consumo sea un tanto menor que el de la estación anterior, á causa de dos hechos, á saber:

El estado poco satisfactorio que prevalece en las fábricas, que da por resultado menos horas de trabajo y menor producto de las máquinas, y una nueva disminución en el algodón en rama que se usa, debido á la proporción levemente aumentada de hilazas más finas que disminuye el consumo por cada huso. En 1906–7 el consumo ascendió como á 155,000 pacas de 500 libras cada una.

En la actualidad las verdaderas condiciones son justamente lo contrario de lo que fueron hace un año. Entonces se recogió la cosecha más grande que hasta esa fecha se había hecho, ó sean 170,000 pacas, como cálculo seguro, de las cuales se exportaron más de 50,000 pacas á Europa.

MERCANCÍAS DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS TRANSPORTADAS POR EL FERROCARRIL DE TEHUANTEPEC EN 1907.

En 1907 el valor total de las mercancías transportadas de los puertos del este á los del oeste, y vice-versa, por la nueva línea transistmiana de Tehuantepec, fué como de $25,000,000 á $30,000,000. En el primer trimestre del año de referencia el valor de las mercancías transportadas de los puertos orientales de los Estados Unidos á través de la línea de Tehuantepec hasta el Pacífico, según los informes remitidos á la Oficina de Estadística del Departamento de Comercio y Trabajo, ascendió á $1,333,000; en el segundo trimestre ascendió á más de $4,000,000; en el tercer trimestre ascendió á más de $4,000,000, y en el cuarto trimestre ascendió aproximadamente á $4,000,000. Los embarques que se hicieron hacia el este por la vía de Tehuantepec, consistieron mayormente de azúcar de las Islas Hawai, puesto que los remitentes de dicho artículo procedentes de las expresadas islas han abandonado la vía del Cabo de Hornos, y envían por la vía de Tehuantepec todo el azúcar que va á los puertos de la costa oriental de los Estados Unidos. En el primer trimestre del año de referencia, el valor de los embarques de azúcar de Hawai por la vía de Tehuantepec, con destino á los puertos orientales de los Estados Unidos, principalmente á Filadelfia y Nueva York, ascendió á cerca de $2,000,000; en el segundo trimestre ascendió á $3,500,000; en el tercer trimestre ascendió á más de $5,000,000, y en el cuarto trimestre ascendió aproximadamente á $5,000,000.

El curso que siguen los buques que conducen el azúcar constituye una línea triangular, puesto que en la estación de la zafra van directamente de Hawai al término occidental del ferrocarril, y después de descargar su cargamento, desde allí se dirigen hacia el norte por la costa occidental de los Estados Unidos á San Francisco, y en algunos casos se remontan hacia el norte hasta los puertos de Puget Sound, y desde allí á Hawai, donde vuelven á cargar y van directamente al puerto de Tehuantepec durante la zafra, y otras veces á San Francisco,

y desde allí por la costa hasta el puerto de Tehuantepec. La distancia que el azúcar procedente de Hawai viaja para llegar á Nueva York por la vía de Tehuantepec, asciende á 5,806 millas, contra 12,269 millas que viajaba antes, enteramente por mar, por la vía del Cabo de Hornos. La inauguración de esta nueva línea transcontinental ha redundado en beneficio de las industrias de los Estados Unidos, no sólo por los abastecimientos de materiales que fueron necesarios para la construcción de aquélla, sino también con motivo de su operación diaria, puesto que las locomotoras se hacen funcionar con petróleo extraído de los campos de aceite de Tejas, por más que se espera que en el inmediato porvenir este combustible lo suministren los campos de aceite de México que quedan adyacentes al Ferrocarril de Tehuantepec. En 1907, que fué el primer año en que dicha línea operó, la cantidad de carga transportada por dicha nueva línea se calculó en más de 600,000 toneladas. Dicho ferrocarril empalma con otras líneas que lo conectan con el Ferrocarril de Veracruz y la Ciudad de México, proporcionándole así una comunicación directa por ferrocarril con las líneas de México y los Estados Unidos. Todas las mercancías procedentes de cualquier puerto de los Estados Unidos y que atraviesan á México por la línea de Tehuantepec, se envían á través del Istmo en carros cerrados y se les permite entrar otra vez libres de derechos al llegar á cualquier otro puerto de los Estados Unidos. El Gobierno Mexicano mantiene una fuerza considerable de soldados en ambos extremos de la línea, con el fin de evitar que las mercancías procedentes de los Estados Unidos y que entran para los fines del transporte á través del Istmo, sean introducidas clandestinamente en México sin pagar derechos, en tanto que el Gobierno de los Estados Unidos también tiene un agente en ambos extremos de la línea cuya misión es impedir que los productos mexicanos se incluyan con los de los Estados Unidos que cruzan el Istmo y puedan así introducirse en este país libres de derechos como productos de los Estados Unidos.

Los muelles de acero modernos que se han construído en los extremos oriental y occidental, hacen posible el transporte por fuerza de vapor y eléctrica de las mercancías desde la bodega del buque directamente al carro que espera en el muelle á lo largo del buque, así como el traslado del carro al buque de idéntica manera. El tiempo que se invierte en hacer los embarques á través del Istmo no llega á 24 horas, y todo el tiempo que se invierte en efectuar el traslado de la bodega de un buque á la de otro, no llega á 48 horas. Las líneas de vapores establecidas en la actualidad hacen la travesía con regularidad de Coatzacoalcos, en el extremo del Golfo, á Filadelfia y Nueva York, y entre Salina Cruz, en el extremo del Pacífico, hasta los puertos occidentales de los Estados Unidos y Hawaí, en tanto que varias líneas que conectan con países extranjeros también hacen escala en los términos oriental y occidental.

Este repentino y gran aumento en la comunicación entre los puertos del Atlántico y del Pacífico, por la vía de la angosta tira de terreno que separa dichos océanos, se debe principalmente al hecho de haberse inaugurado á principios de 1907 el Ferrocarril de Tehuantepec que conecta las aguas de ambos océanos mediante una línea terrestre que sólo tiene 190 millas de longitud, cuyos términos por el Atlántico ó lado del Golfo de México es Coatzacoalcos, y Salina Cruz en la costa del Pacífico. Este plan de conectar los dos océanos por esta corta línea terrestre, cuya longitud no llega á 200 millas, se ideó antes de que en los Estados Unidos se construyese el primer Ferrocarril Transcontinental, por cuanto la primera concesión para la construcción de dicha vía la hizo el Gobierno Mexicano en 1857. Como quiera que esta y otras concesiones posteriores no dieron el resultado que se esperaba, en 1892 el Gobierno Mexicano se hizo cargo de dicha construcción, y al efecto celebró una serie de contratos con arreglo á los cuales en 1894 se terminó una línea de océano á océano; pero debido á sus condiciones defectuosas, se hizo necesario reconstruirla, y esto se efectuó mediante un arreglo celebrado entre el Gobierno Mexicano y una compañía inglesa, habiéndose inaugurado realmente dicha línea en enero de 1907.

EMBARQUES DE HENEQUÉN EN 1907.

Los embarques de henequén por los puertos yucatecos de Progreso y Campeche en 1907 ascendieron á 652,188 pacas, en comparación con 626,785 pacas en el año anterior.

Por el puerto de Progreso se hace la mayor parte de las exportaciones de esta fibra, habiéndose embarcado 113,747 pacas, en tanto que por el de Campeche se exportaron 2,500 pacas.

Los Estados Unidos fueron los principales compradores de las exportaciones que se hicieron, es decir, compraron 590,923 pacas. Los demás países compraron en el orden siguiente:

	Pacas.		Pacas.
Canadá	45,860	Italia	275
Cuba	8,282	España	185
Inglaterra	4,245	Austria	120
Bélgica	1,253	Rusia	7
Alemania	681	República Argentina	4
Francia	350	Brasil	3

INFORMES CONSULARES.

El Cónsul Mexicano en Nueva York anuncia que en el mes de noviembre de 1907, al puerto de dicha ciudad llegaron 10 buques procedentes de puertos mexicanos, conduciendo 59,263 bultos de mercancías. Durante el mismo mes, del puerto de Nueva York salieron 14 buques con destino á puertos mexicanos, conduciendo 122,255 fardos de mercancías.

En diciembre del mismo año, en el puerto de Nueva York entraron trece buques procedentes de puertos mexicanos, conduciendo 116,185 fardos de mercancías. Durante el mismo mes, del puerto de Nueva York salieron 15 buques, conduciendo 117,229 fardos de mercancías con destino á puertos mexicanos.

Los productos procedentes de México consistieron de materiales textiles, cueros, café, goma, minerales y artículos diversos, en tanto que los que se embarcaron para México, consistieron mayormente de maquinaria y artículos fabricados.

El Cónsul Mexicano en Filadelfia anuncia que durante los meses de octubre, noviembre y diciembre de 1907, se enviaron de dicha ciudad mercancías con destino á puertos mexicanos por valor de $130,987.18, $91,935.68 y $97,956.12, respectivamente. Dichos embarques consistieron de carbón, petróleo y pólvora.

El Cónsul Mexicano en Nogales, Arizona, anuncia que en noviembre de 1907 las exportaciones de productos mexicanos á los Estados Unidos por el puerto de Nogales representaron un valor total de $154,537. Las importaciones que México hizo de los Estados Unidos en noviembre de 1907, por el expresado puerto, se valuaron en $569,233.72, y de dichas importaciones una cantidad de mercancías valuadas en $68,501.86 procedieron de otros países y no de los Estados Unidos.

ASIGNACIONES DE FONDOS PARA OBRAS PÚBLICAS.

Además de los desembolsos autorziados previamente para efectuar mejoras públicas en todos los ámbitos de la República Mexicana, el 17 de diciembre de 1907 se promulgó un decreto del Ejecutivo que prescribe una asignación de 10,690,000 pesos, que equivalen como á $5,345,000, para las siguientes empresas.

Para las obras de puertos en Salina Cruz y Coatzacoalcos, además de las sumas que ántes se habían asignado 5,190,000 pesos, que equivalen á $2,585,000; 1,500,000 pesos, ó sean $750,000, para la construcción de un asilo; 1,000,000 de pesos ($500,000) para la construcción de un edificio para un colegio, y además de las asignaciones anteriores, 3,000,000 pesos ($1,500,000), para el abastecimiento de agua de la Ciudad de México.

NICARAGUA.

NUEVA LEY DE AGRICULTURA.

Con el fin de fomentar por todos los medios posibles los ramos de agricultura y ganadería, considerados como la principal fuente de riqueza del país, el Presidente ZELAYA, de la República de Nicaragua, decretó con fecha 22 de noviembre de 1907 una ley que dispone la creación de un consejo superior, juntas y comisiones de agri-

cultura y ganadería. El consejo, que constará de cinco miembros, tendrá su asiento en la capital, y su presidente será el Ministro de Fomento. En cada departamento y en las comarcas de San Juan del Norte, y Cabo de Gracias á Dios, habrá una junta de agricultura y ganadería, y en los demás pueblos y villas de la República comisiones de agricultura; tanto éstas como aquéllas dependerán del consejo superior.

La ley de que se trata consta de 29 artículos y se halla dividida en 6 títulos, el primero de los cuales trata de la creación ya mencionada; el segundo, de las atribuciones del consejo y de las juntas y comisiones; el tercero, de los deberes y atribuciones de las juntas departamentales; el cuarto, de las atribuciones y deberes de las comisiones; el quinto, de las funciones y deberes de los funcionarios y miembros de los susodichos cuerpos, y el sexto contiene disposiciones generales. El consejo superior, por medio de los cónsules de la República, deberá llevar á cabo en el extranjero una activa propaganda en favor de los productos agrícolas del país.

PANAMÁ.

LAS RENTAS NACIONALES EN 1907.

El producto de las rentas nacionales de la República de Panamá durante el año de 1907 ascendió á la cantidad de $2,439,301.68, que, en comparación con la cantidad presupuesta, arroja un exceso de $45,436.05. Las fuentes de ingreso fueron las siguientes:

	1906.	1907.
Artículos gravados con el 10 por ciento	$593,657.20	$757,984.90
Introducción de licores	317,078.48	438,299.10
Impuesto sobre tabaco y cigarrillos	45,847.70	205,478.83
Impuesto de sal	4,664.81	7,669.40
Impuesto sobre fósforos	11,990.68	19,563.38
Impuesto sobre café	11,533.47	27,412.76
Impuesto sobre importación de opio	.....	3,183.55
Destilación de licores	.....	10,875.57
Deguello de ganado mayor y menor	.....	25,441.87
Correos nacionales	.....	127,593.77
Patentes y marcas de fábrica	.....	63,420.95
Derechos sobre minas	.....	1,795.00
Papel sellado y timbre	.....	2,629.65
Derecho de registro	.....	51,197.44
Derecho de exportación	.....	6,078.17
Inmuebles y semovientes	.....	43,083.79
Lotería de Panamá	.....	39,152.42
Pesca de concha madre perla	.....	63,000.00
Bienes nacionales	.....	600.00
Derechos consulares	.....	9,718.02
Faros	.....	89,518.13
Telégrafos nacionales	.....	3,530.63
Ingresos varios	.....	5,955.22
Encomiendas postales	.....	22,118.23
Casas de cambio	.....	8,971.02
Venta de licores al por menor	.....	5,597.50
Lotes de baja mar	.....	84,829.50
Importación de ganado	.....	425.00
Mercado público	.....	16,841.50
Mortuorias	.....	2,252.02
Intereses	.....	294,000.00
Total	.....	2,439,301.68

MERCANCÍAS DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS TRANSPORTADAS POR EL FERROCARRIL DE PANAMÁ.

En 1907 el valor de las mercancías procedentes de puertos de los Estados Unidos y que se embarcaron por el Ferrocarril de Panamá á otras partes de los Estados Unidos ó á países extranjeros, fué de $12,000,000 á $15,000,000. Las mercancías que se enviaron de Nueva York á puertos del oeste de los Estados Unidos se valuaron aproximadamente en $4,000,000, y las que se embarcaron de Nueva York á los países de la América Central y del Sur, en la costa del Pacífico, se valuaron como en $7,000,000, en tanto que el valor de las que se enviaron de San Francisco á los puertos del este de los Estados Unidos ascendió como á $2,000,000 á $3,000,000. Los embarques de mercancías de Nueva York vía Panamá á los puertos de la Costa Occidental de los Estados Unidos fueron distribuídos en los siguientes puntos: San Diego, Santa Bárbara, Los Angeles, Oakland, San Francisco, Portland, Seattle y Spokane, y las que se enviaron á países extranjeros por dicha vía fueron á Chile, Perú, Ecuador, Bolivia, Colombia, Panamá, Costa Rica, Honduras, Nicaragua, Guatemala, México y los puertos de la Colombia Británica del Canadá. Estos artículos comprenden prácticamente toda clase de mercancías, pero especialmente carnes, harina, géneros de algodón, aceite mineral, maquinaria para minas, artefactos de hierro y acero, y artefactos diversos. Los embarques que se hicieron de San Francisco por la vía de Panamá á los puertos orientales, se enviaron á Tampa, Filadalfia, Nueva York, New Haven y Boston, y consistieron de vinos, plomo en lingotes, azogue, cueros, pieles y mercancías diversas.

PERÚ.

LA "PERUVIAN CORPORATION" EN 1906–7.

La Junta Directiva de la *Peruvian Corporation*, de la República peruana, manifiesta en su último informe que las cuentas del año que terminó el 30 de junio de 1907, demuestran una ganancia de £256,345, después de deducidos los gastos ordinarios y los intereses de los bonos de 4 por ciento. La junta propone: (1) Colocar la suma de £50,000 en el fondo de reserva, haciendo un total de £525,000; (2) subir el interés de los bonos durante el año á 6 por ciento, pagando un interés adicional de 2 por ciento en el 1 de abril de 1908; (3) pagar, en el 21 de enero de 1908, un dividendo de 1½ por ciento sobre las acciones de preferencia de la corporación, lo cual absorverá £111,692; (4) apartar la suma de £4,710 para la cuenta de colonización, la de £26,871 para el pago de reclamaciones por servicios ferroviarios cancelados por el acuerdo hecho recientemente con el Gobierno

peruano, y la £4,000 para el fondo de seguros de los vapores del Lago. Esta repartición requerirá, además de la ganancia mencionada, la suma de £14,929 del saldo de las rentas netas del año anterior al de referencia.

SALVADOR.

LA EXPORTACIÓN EN EL PRIMER SEMESTRE DE 1907.

Según las últimas estadísticas recibidas de la República de El Salvador, las exportaciones durante el primer semestre de 1907 tuvieron un peso total de 50,079,904 libras, por valor de 11,285,531.03 pesos. El artículo que se exportó en mayor cantidad fué el café, por valor de 8,739,259.50 pesos, siguiéndole el azúcar y el bálsamo. Entre los países que recibieron dichas exportaciones, los Estados Unidos se hallan á la cabeza con 3,543,438.83 pesos; siguenle: Francia, con 2,339,233.03 pesos; Alemania, con 1,802,289.13 pesos, é Italia con 1,479,214.01 pesos.

MOVIMIENTO MARÍTIMO EN EL PRIMER SEMESTRE DE 1907.

Según los últimos datos oficiales recientemente recibidos del Salvador, el movimiento marítimo en los puertos de la República durante el primer semestre de 1907 fué como sigue:

Entradas—216 vapores y 75 veleros, con 13,313 hombres de tripulación, 15,648 toneladas de carga, 1,747 pasajeros y 392 cajas, 2,559 sacos y 337 paquetes de correspondencia; salidas el mismo número de vapores y veleros, con 343,116 bultos de productos del país, 1,551 pasajeros y 376 cajas, 844 sacos y 491 paquetes de correspondencia.

RENTAS ADUANERAS EN EL PRIMER SEMESTRE DE 1907.

Las aduanas de la República del Salvador recaudaron durante el primer semestre del año 1907 una renta total de 2,880,388.44 pesos, de cuya cantidad corresponden á derechos de importación 2,280,144.82 pesos, á derechos de exportación, 564,586.22 pesos, y el resto á varios ingresos. Comparando el total general con el de igual período de 1906, se observa una disminución de 354,382.25 pesos.

URUGUAY.

LA COSECHA DE CEREALES Y LINO EN 1906-7.

El Departamento de Ganadería y Agricultura de la República del Uruguay publicó en el mes de diciembre de 1907, los datos estadísticos de la cosecha de cereales y lino correspondiente al año agrícola

de 1906–7. Según dichas estadísticas, las hectáreas cultivadas fueron: Con trigo, 252,258; con lino, 23,529; con avena, 135,944; con cebada, 1,883; con alpiste, 2,556, y con maíz, 212,154. Los kilogramos sembrados en el mencionado año en todo el país fueron: Trigo, 17,824,934; lino, 954,141; avena, 135,944; cebada, 129,652; alpiste, 84,790, y maíz, 2,661,355. Los kilogramos cosechados fueron: Trigo, 186,884,422; lino, 21,930,704; avena, 1,752,247; cebada, 1,576,213; alpiste, 1,638,182, y maíz, 136,136,240. El rendimiento medio por hectárea fué de: Trigo, 740 kilogramos; lino, 742 kilogramos, y maíz, 641 kilogramos.

RENTA DE ADUANA EN ONCE MESES DE 1907.

La renta de aduana uruguaya en el mes de noviembre de 1907 ascendió á $922,723, lo cual demuestra una disminución de $23,099, en comparación con el mismo mes de 1906. Sin embargo, en los once meses que terminaron en noviembre, el total de dicha renta ascendió á $12,194,596, en comparación con $11,952,463, en el período correspondiente del año anterior. El mes de diciembre dió muestras de una creciente actividad en los negocios en toda la República, y según cálculo que se ha hecho, los ingresos ascenderán á una cantidad casi igual á la que se anunció que correspondía al mes de noviembre, y en tal caso, la renta de aduana en el año de referencia ascenderá á $13,000,000 cantidad, que representa un aumento considerable respecto de 1906.

REBAJA EN LOS DERECHOS DE FAROS.

Con arreglo á una ley promulgada recientemente en la República del Uruguay, la única contribución que por el servicio de faros el Estado impondrá á los buques que hacen viajes marítimos, consistirá de 3 centavos por tonelada de registro, cuando se trate de buques que conduzcan carga solamente, ó carga y pasajeros, y 1½ centavos á los buques que conduzcan exclusivamente pasajeros. Los buques que se dedican al comercio de cabotaje y los que hacen escala en los puertos de la República únicamente para hacer carbón, obtener provisiones, tomar un práctico ó tripulación, esperar instrucciones de sus consignatarios ó dueños ó para efectuar reparaciones en el casco, maquinaria ó aparejo, estarán exentos de esta contribución. Los buques que terminan su viaje en Montevideo y que salen luego de dicho puerto, también estarán exentos del pago de dicha contribución. El Ejecutivo ha sido autorizado para hacer un gasto de $200,000 en las reformas de los faros existentes, la construcción de nuevos faros y la compra de remolcadores para el servicio de faros, debiendo tomarse la expresada suma del sobrante que resulte del año económico de 1906–7.

PALACIO PRESIDENCIAL EM HAVANA.

Presidential Palace, Havana.

VENEZUELA.

MODIFICACIONES ARANCELARIAS.

El Presidente CASTRO, de la República de Venezuela, firmó con fecha 19 de diciembre de 1907 el decreto cuya parte dispositiva se da á continuación y que fué publicado en la "Gaceta Oficial del mismo día:

"ARTICULO 1. Desde la fecha que señala para el vencimiento de los plazos ultramarinos el artículo 225 de la Ley XVI del Código de Hacienda, y que se contará desde hoy, pagarán los efectos expresados en seguida al ser importados por las aduanas de la República, los siguientes derechos.:

"El mármol en bruto sin pulir ni labrar, así como los túmulos de mármol de tercera clase, no considerándose como parte de los túmulos, las lozas ó baldosas para pavimentos de los panteones que pagarán el derecho de cuarta clase como 'Mármol pulido ó labrado.'

"Los libros y libretines en blanco, quinta clase.

"Las medicinas secretas ó patentadas que hayan sido debidamente examinadas por la Junta de Examen y Clasificación de Medicinas Secretas y de Patente, quinta clase.

"Los sobres hechos ó á medio hacer, sexta clase.

"Las zarazas, nansú, calicós, cretonas, carlancanes, brillantinas, listados finos que tengan más de 13 hilos de urdimbre ó trama en un cuadro de 5 milímetros, popelinas, malvinas, japonesas, lustrillos, percales de color, semejante á las indicadas, y no mencionadas en otras clases, como el merino de algodón y la franela de algodón de color, sexta clase.

"Las muselinas, crespó de algodón de color, lino, rengue, bareje, granadinas, organdía, céfiro, clarín, dulce sueño, tarlatán, imité, holan batista, batistilla de algodón blanca ó de color, lisa, labrada, calada ó bordada en piezas ó en cortes y cualquiera otra tela semejante á las anteriores no comprendidas en otras clases, séptima clase."

REGLAMENTACIÓN DE LAS LÍNEAS TELEGRÁFICAS Y TELEFÓNICAS.

Los números de la "Gaceta Oficial" de Venezuela del 20 y 23 de diciembre de 1907, contienen los textos de dos decretos del Presidente CASTRO, de la misma fecha, que reglamentan las líneas telegráficas de la República y de las telefónicas oficiales. El Decreto del 20 de diciembre es como sigue:

"ARTICULO 1. El, establecimiento de las líneas telegráficas de la Nación y de las telefónicas oficiales es de la exclusiva competencia del Ejecutivo Federal.

"ART. 2. Podrán tener líneas telegráficas especiales, únicamente para su propio servicio, las compañías ferroviarias que se establezcan en la República, siempre que obtengan el permiso del Gobierno Federal, sin el cual no podrán construírse aquéllas; y las compañías ferroviarias que las tengan ya establecidas conforme á los contratos con el Ejecutivo Federal y aprobados por el Congreso Nacional.

"ART. 3. Todo lo concerniente á la administración y servicio de los telégrafos y teléfonos nacionales, así como la construcción de nuevas líneas, y la reparación y construcción de las existentes, queda sometido á la jurisdicción del Ministerio de Fomento.

"ART. 4. Todos los habitantes del territorio Venezolano tienen el derecho de corresponderse por medio de los telégrafos nacionales, con sujeción á los reglamentos del ramo.

"ART. 5 Por decreto especial se reglamentará todo lo concerniente al servicio, administración y contabilidad de los telégrafos nacionales y de los teléfanos oficiales.

"ART. 6. Se derogan las leyes, decretos y disposiciones sobre telégrafos y teléfonos nacionales que regían hasta la fecha."

El decreto especial, mencionado en el artículo 5 del anterior, fechado el 23 de diciembre de 1907, pone la dirección inmediata de las líneas telegráficas y telefónicas á cargo de un Director de los Telégrafos Nacionales, dependiente del Ministerio de Fomento, y dispone la manera en que se construirán las líneas, la división de las mismas, la clasificación de las oficinas el personal de empleados, sus deberes, la tarifa, la contabilidad, la franquicia telegráfica, y contiene además otras disposiciones disciplinarias, penales, generales y transitorias. Los Estados de la Unión no podrán construír líneas telegráficas sin previa autorización del Ejecutivo Federal.

Boletim Mensal

DA

Secretaria Internacional das Republicas Americanas,

União Internacional das Republicas Americanas.

Vol. XXVI. FEVEREIRO de 1908. No. 2.

(Muitos dos assumptos commentados na secção editorial portugueza do Boletim, são publicados sómente em inglez ou hespanhol.)

A Quarta Conferencia Pan-Americana realizar-se-ha na cidade de Buenos Aires, a capital da Republica Argentina, em 1910. Na reunião mensal ordinaria do Conselho Director da Secretaria Internacional que teve lugar em 5 de fevereiro de 1908, a moção indicando a cidade de Buenos Aires para a sede da proxima Conferencia foi unanimemente acceita. A escolha foi recebida com sympathia por todos os representantes diplomaticos. Compareceram á sessão a maior parte dos membros, os quaes manifestaram grande interesse pelos primeiros passos dados para a proxima reunião das Republicas Americanas. O Conselho Director tem empenho em fazer que as materias que hão de ser submettidas á consideração da proxima Conferencia sejam bem estudadas de modo que tenha o mesmo exito que tiveram as tres Conferencias anteriores, realizadas respectivamente em Washington, Mexico e Rio de Janeiro. Convem que a Conferencia se reuna na cidade de Buenos Aires em 1910, porque a Republica Argentina realizará nessa data uma grande exposição nacional para commemorar o centenario da sua independencia, que será de grande interesse a toda a America, e, certamente, ha de attrahir grande numero de pessoas tanto dos Estados Unidos, como da Europa.

A cidade de Buenos Aires, que conta 1,140,000 habitantes e vae desenvolvendo-se tão rapidamente como qualquer cidade dos Estados Unidos, com excepção talvez de New York e Chicago, figura entre as principaes capitaes do mundo, de modo que sua escolha é muito propicia tanto para a realização de uma Conferencia Internacional como para uma Exposição Internacional. A designação, com tantos mezes de antecedencia, do lugar e da data para a proxima Conferencia permitte que o Governo argentino tenha bastante tempo para fazer os preparativos, e que o Conselho Director elabore o programma para as suas deliberações.

CONVENÇÕES E RESOLUÇÕES DA TERCEIRA CONFERENCIA PAN-AMERICANA.

Foi submettido ao Conselho Director em sua ultima reunião, um relatorio importantissimo relativo ás convenções e resoluções que foram assignadas na Terceira Conferencia Pan-Americana do Rio de Janiero. A Commissão para esse fim compoz-se dos Srs. J. N. LÉGER, Ministro de Haiti; EPIFANIO PORTELA, Ministro da Republica Argentina; e FELIPE PARDO, Ministro do Peru. Essa Commissão teve a cooperação do Director e o Secretario da Secretaria no preparo dos dados. O relatorio é reproduzido em sua integra neste numero do BOLETIM, e põe em evidencia a actual condição das resoluções adoptadas pelas tres Conferencias. Tambem faz ver que varios Governos ainda não manifestaram a sua attitude a respeito das differentes convenções e resoluções. A Commissão recommenda aos membros do Conselho Director que se esforcem para que os seus respectivos Governos tomem em consideracão essas resoluções e convenções, ratificando-as ou indicando as modificações que tenham de ser submettidas á consideração da proxima Conferencia. Uma das medidas recommendadas pela Commissão autoriza o Director a estabelecer, como parte integrante da Secretaria, uma secção de estatistica e informações commerciaes. A Commissão tambem recommenda que os diversos Governos providenciem no sentido de augmentar de 50 por cento suas quotas para a manutenção da Secretaria, e que os paizes que estão atrazados nas quotas com que contribuem, não só para o custeio da Secretaria, como para a construcção do novo edificio, façam seus pagamentos com a maior brevidade possivel, afim de que os trabalhos da Secretaria não sejam prejudicados e os da construcção do edificio adiados, por falta de fundos.

RELATORIO ESPECIAL DO PROFESSOR WILLIAM R. SHEPHERD.

Neste numero do BOLETIM, publicamos o substancioso relatorio apresentado pelo Professor WILLIAM R. SHEPHERD, sobre as relações commerciaes entre os Estados Unidos e a America do Sul. Deve ser lido por todas as pessoas que se interessam pelo desenvolvimento do commercio e amizade pan-americanos. O leitor lembrar-se-ha que o Professor SHEPHERD, que é um dos membros mais proeminentes da faculdade da Universidade de Columbia, de New York, fez uma viagem pela America do Sul em 1907, indo via Panamá pela costa occidental e visitando o Equador, Peru, Bolivia, Chile, a Republica Argentina, Uruguay e Brazil, e regressando pela costa oriental. Á pedido do Director da Secretaria, o Sr. SHEPHERD fez estudos especiaes para essa instituição, e suas conclusões vão incluidas no referido relatorio. O Professor SHEPHERD é um attento observador dos pro-

blemas americanos, e tem sempre manifestado interesse em estabelecer relações mais estreitas entre a America do Norte e a America do Sul. É de esperar que o exemplo do Professor SHEPHERD seja seguido por outros professores que occupam cadeiras semelhantes em differentes instituições deste paiz, despertando assim nos Estados Unidos um interesse cada vez maior pelas Republicas suas irmãs.

ESTUDO DA HISTORIA E POLITICA SUL-AMERICANAS.

A memoria lida pelo Sr. Dr. HIRAM BINGHAM perante a Associação de Sciencia Politica Americana que se reuniu em Madison, Estado de Wisconsin, em 28 de dezembro de 1907, sobre o thema "A importancia da historia e politica da America do Sul como campo para investigações," é tão interessante e contem tantos dados novos que decidimos reproduzil-a neste numero do BOLETIM. Deve ser lida especialmente pelos professores e estudantes de instituições educadoras dos Estados Unidos que actualmente se occupam com o estudo da historia e politica das Republicas nossas irmãs. A Secretaria recebe constantemente cartas de estudantes das principaes instituições educadoras dos Estados Unidos, pedindo informações sobre assumptos tratados pelo Dr. BINGHAM em sua memoria. Os factos e informações que contem esta memoria hão de causar admiração a muitas pessoas que ainda não teem idea das opportunidades existentes nos Estados Unidos para o estudo deste assumpto. Com os dados ministrados pelo Dr. BINGHAM, qualquer pessoa poderá facilmente fazer um estudo geral ou especial da historia e politica da America do Sul.

A FRATERNIDADE CENTRO-AMERICANA.

A Conferencia de Paz da America Central, que esteve em reunião no edificio da Secretaria Internacional das Republicas Americanas durante cinco semanas e que encerrou suas sessões em 20 de dezembro de 1907, deu um passo quasi sem igual e de um valor sentimental especial em desenvolver relações mais estreitas entre a America Central, o Mexico e os Estados Unidos. Foi organizada a Fraternidade Centro-Americana, que tem por objecto especial manter de pé o espirito de interesse e sympathia mutuos entre as Republicas da America do Norte. O Acto Constitucional desta Fraternidade é publicado neste numero do BOLETIM, e deve ser lido por todos os que se interessam pelas resoluções da Conferencia. Não é exagero dizer que a organização desta Fraternidade marcou o apogeo da boa vontade e espirito de harmonia que caracterizavam as discussões da Conferencia e as relações dos differentes delegados, e deve exercer poderosa influencia em prol do cumprimento de todas as convenções firmadas nesta notavel assemblea.

PRIMEIRO CONGRESSO SCIENTIFICO PAN-AMERICANO.

Tal é o interesse despertado em toda a parte dos Estados Unidos e outras Republicas Americanas, pelo Primeiro Congresso Scientifico Pan-Americano que se realizará em Santiago, Chile, em 1° de dezembro de 1908, que publicamos neste numero do BOLETIM o programma deste Congresso. É de esperar que o Congresso dos Estados Unidos vote a verba recommendada pelo Secretario ROOT para a representação official dos Estados Unidos. É sabido que o Governo do Chile está fazendo os devidos preparativos e que a maioria das Republicas Americanas mandarão delegados. Além daquelles designados directamente pelos Governos, serão muito bem recebidos todos os representantes de universidades e organizações scientificas.

DISCURSOS PRONUNCIADOS PELO DIRECTOR SOBRE A AMERICA LATINA.

Como prova do interesse crescente despertado em todos os Estados Unidos pelos paizes latino-americanos, pode-se dizer que o Director da Secretaria, si tivesse acceito a terça parte dos convites que lhe fizeram juntas commerciaes, instituições educadoras, e outras organizações para fazer conferencias, sobre as relações commerciaes e sociaes dos Estados Unidos com a America Latina, teria de fazer conferencias quasi todos os dias desde 1° de janeiro até 1° de junho. Essas conferencias não se limitam a uma determinada região do paiz, mas se realizam em toda a parte, tanto no Centro e no extremo Oeste, como na Nova Inglaterra e no Sul. Os trabalhos de administração da Secretaria, porém, são taes, que só pode acceitar uma pequena porção desses convites. Como prova dos esforços feitos pelo Director afim de satisfazer quanto mais os desejos que tem o publico de informações a respeito destes paizes, damos em seguida uma lista das organizações perante as quaes fez conferencias: "University Club," de Washington, em 4 de janeiro; "Oregon Society," de Washington, em 11 de janeiro; por occasião do jantar offerecido em New York para commemorar a inauguração do novo serviço de vapores com a America do Sul, em 14 de janeiro; "Institute of Banking," de Washington, em 16 de janeiro; perante o "Men's Club," da "Central Presbyterian Church," de Washington, em 20 de janeiro; perante "Cooper Union," de New York, em 27 de janeiro; no banquete annual da "Merchants' and Manufacturers' Association," de Baltimore, em 30 de janeiro; "National Association of Manufacturers," de New York, em 31 de janeiro; "California Society," de Washington, em 2 de fevereiro; no anniversario de Lincoln, em Grand Rapids, Michigan, em 12 de fevereiro; "Junta Commercial de Pontiac," Michigan, em 13 de fevereiro; "Commercial Club," de Lincoln, Nebraska, em 17 de fevereiro; "MacKenzie School," de Dobbs Ferry, New York, em 22 de fevereiro, para commemorar o

anniversario natalicio de Washington; "National Jewelers' Association, de Philadelphia," em 22 de fevereiro; e a "American Geographical Society," de New York, em 25 de fevereiro.

ITINERARIOS E CONDIÇÕES PARA VIAJAR NA AMERICA DO SUL.

A Secretaria Internacional está recebendo tantos pedidos de informações, tanto dos Estados Unidos, como da Europa, a respeito dos itinerarios e condições para viajar na America do Sul, que contratou o Sr. LEE MCCLUNG, Thesoureiro da Universidade de Yale, que fez recentemente uma viagem ao redor da America do Sul, e Sra. MARIE ROBINSON WRIGHT, a distincta autora, que tem visitado todas as partes do continente meridional, para escrever breves artigos descriptivos sobre os diversos caminhos e accommodações que possam servir de guia para as pessoas que intendam visitar aquella parte do mundo. A julgar pela correspondencia da Secretaria, parece que durante o anno proximo haverá grande augmento no numero dos viajantes para a America do Sul. Sobretudo, um grande numero de *touristes* que teem o costume de ir á Europa e á Asia, estão decididos, á vista do interesse desenvolvido pela America Latina, a mudar suas habituaes excursões e ver o que se passa na America Central e do Sul. A este respeito, convem notar os grandes melhoramentos que a Companhia Lamport e Holt tem feito em sua linha de navegação na costa oriental, introduzindo mais tres grandes vapores de 10,000 toneladas cada um, com excellentes accommodações para passageiros. Esses vapores estão fazendo a travessia entre New York, Rio de Janeiro e Buenos Aires. Publicamos neste numero do BOLETIM uma photographia de um destes navios e tambem uma ou duas vistas do seu interior, com o intuito de mostrar suas boas accommodações a todas as pessoas interessadas.

ESTRADAS DE FERRO ARGENTINAS.

A lei governamental uniformizando os privilegios concedidos ás companhias de estradas de ferro funccionando na Republica Argentina, tem dado um grande impulso ao desenvolvimento de novas iniciativas. As linhas ferreas actualmente em trafego attingem a 14,000 milhas de extensão, das quaes 900 milhas foram construidas durante o anno, e representam o capital total de $671,688,874.

Tres das principaes linhas teem em projecto a consolidação dos seus interesses, e pelos termos do contracto, serão despendidas grandes sommas em prolongamentos e obras de melhoramento.

Os serviços postal e telegraphico, tão estreitamente ligados ás vias ferreas, foram feitos com regularidade durante o anno de 1907, verificando-se um accrescimo de $746,961 nas suas receitas, comparadas com as do anno anterior.

A arrecadação das rendas internas foi muito satisfactoria.

ESTANHO BOLIVIANO NOS MERCADOS DO MUNDO.

Dos dados estatisticos do movimento do estanho nos mercados da Europa e dos Estados Unidos no anno de 1907, vê-se que as entregas da procedencia da Bolivia, ainda que foram muito inferiores ás provenientes do Estreito, occupam o segundo lugar, sendo de 15,300 toneladas, contra 16,380 toneladas em 1906.

Reproduzimos neste numero do BOLETIM, por ser de interesse aos que negociam em borracha, trechos do relatorio apresentado ao Departamento de Colonização e Agricultura sobre a cultura da borracha na Provincia de Larocaja.

MEDIDAS LEGISLATIVAS BRAZILEIRAS.

As noticias recebidas do Brazil dizem que é provavel que o Congresso Nacional, em sua proxima sessão de maio, vote o projecto de reforma das tarifas aduaneiras, devendo entrar em vigor até fins de agosto do corrente anno. No emtanto, a lei do orçamento, que foi publicada em 1° de janeiro de 1908, faz importantes modificações nos direitos de importação cobrados sobre os materiaes e machinas destinados ás industrias. Continua em vigor a lei de 30 de junho de 1906, concedendo uma reducção de 20 por cento a certos artigos de origem dos Estados Unidos.

Um dos resultados desta concessão evidencia-se dos dados estatisticos do commercio entre os dous paizes no anno de 1907, os quaes demonstram que a exportação de productos norte-americanos para o Brazil augmentou em mais de $4,000,000.

Tarifas prohibitorias são applicadas aos productos alimenticios e bebidas em cuja preparação forem empregadas substancias nocivas á saude publica. O Governo vai estabelecer um serviço de propaganda para desenvolver nos paizes estrangeiros o consumo dos productos nacionaes.

RECENSEAMENTO DA POPULAÇÃO E LEIS DO CHILE.

Segundo informes sobre o resultado do recenseamento da população do Chile, que foi levado a effeito em fins de 1907, a Republica conta actualmente 3,250,000 habitantes, o que mostra um augmento de um pouco menos de 50,000 habitantes, desde 1903, a data do ultimo recenseamento.

Informação foi recebida de que o Congresso do Chile approvou em 22 de janeiro de 1908, um projecto de lei autorizando o Governo a abrir um credito para a construcção da Estrada de Ferro Longitudinal, a qual se estenderá de um ponto na fronteira do Peru até ao Estreito de Magalhães, com uma extensão de 2,600 milhas. A concessão ultimamente feita a uma companhia allemã para a construcção de uma linha ligando Arica a La Paz, é mais uma prova do interesse que o Governo está manifestando neste ramo de sua actividade.

O Congresso Nacional approvou o projecto de lei, autorizando o Governo a suspender os direitos de importação sobre o gado e a reduzir de 50 por cento os direitos sobre certos tecidos. A lei, cujo texto foi publicado no BOLETIM de dezembro de 1907, entrará em vigor dentro de seis mezes contados da data da sua promulgação.

COMMERCIO DE CUBA EM 1906–7.

Do relatorio do Governador Provisorio MAGOON, em que revista as condições geraes na Republica de Cuba desde os ultimos mezes de 1906 até fins de 1907, vê-se que a situação economica do paiz é em geral satisfactoria. As importações realizadas durante o exercicio de 1906–7, mostram uma diminuição de mais de $7,000,000, em comparação com as do exercicio anterior, ao passo que houve um augmento nas exportações de mais de $5,000,000. No commercio com os Estados Unidos no anno de 1907, nota-se sensivel augmento, tanto na importação, como na exportação.

PROGRESSO COMMERCIAL DO MEXICO.

O commercio exterior do Mexico continua sua marcha ascendente. Durante os primeiros quatro mezes do exercicio de 1907 (julho a outubro), nota-se um augmento de mais de $6,000,000, tanto na importação como na exportação, comparadas com as do periodo correspondente do anno anterior, ao passo que as rendas aduaneiras arrecadadas durante o primeiro semestre de 1907–8, mostram um augmento de cerca de $2,000,000, em comparação com as de igual periodo de 1906–7. As transacções commerciaes realizadas durante o anno de 1907, foram na importancia de $200,000,000, da qual mais que a metade representa as transacções de emprezas commerciaes, novas companhias e augmento do capital de companhias existentes. Attinge a $25,000,000 até $30,000,000 o valor das mercadorias dos Estados Unidos que foram transportadas entre portos do Atlantico e do Pacifico via Tehuantepec durante o anno de 1907.

O commercio do Mexico com os Estados Unidos no anno de 1907 foi muito satisfactorio, sendo as importações dessa procedencia no valor

de $67,000,000, e suas exportações para alli no valor de $57,000,000, o que mostra um augmento de $5,420,697 e $6,006,528, respectivamente, comparadas com as do anno anterior.

NOVA LEI AGRICOLA E CONCESSÕES PARA A EXPLORAÇÃO DA BORRACHA EM NICARAGUA.

A nova lei que o Congresso de Nicaragua ultimamente decretou com o fim de promover a agricultura e industria pastoril da Republica, autoriza o Governo a estabelecer um serviço de propaganda no exterior com o fim de desenvolver o consumo dos productos nacionaes. A industria de bananas já attingiu a um gráo de prosperidade sem exemplo na historia desta industria, como resultado da systematica propaganda desta fructa, e a Republica tem outros productos que são susceptiveis de identico desenvolvimento.

O Consul dos Estados Unidos em San Juan del Norte, FREDERIC M. RYDER, informa que a concessão que foi ultimamente feita pelo Governo de Nicaragua para a exploração da borracha, será sem duvida transferida á companhia que já tem duas concessões para a exploração da borracha nas florestas virgens do paiz, de modo que esta corporação terá o monopolio da producção da borracha neste paiz.

SITUAÇÃO FINANCEIRA DO PANAMÁ.

A situação prospera do Panamá evidencia-se do facto de que as rendas fiscaes no anno de 1907 foram de $5,436.05, em excesso da estimativa orçamentaria, importando o total em $2,439,301.68. A maior parte destas rendas correspondem aos direitos de importação.

O valor das mercadorias norte-americanas transportadas pela Estrada de Ferro de Panamá durante o anno de 1907, foi calculado em $12,000,000 até $15,000,000, e os productos dessa procedencia importados no Panamá durante o anno, mostram um augmento de mais de $4,000,000, comparados com os do anno anterior.

A ESTRADA DE FERRO CENTRAL DO PARAGUAY.

Do relatorio da Estrada de Ferro Central do Paraguay, correspondente ao anno que terminou em 30 de abril de 1907, cujo resumo é reproduzido neste numero do BOLETIM, vê-se que as difficuldades surgidas entre a companhia da linha e o Governo foram satisfactoriamente resolvidas. Como esta é a unica linha em trafego em toda a Republica, seus interesses e os do desenvolvimento do paiz são intimamente ligados, e a feliz terminação da controversia ha de dar um novo impulso aos negocios. Segundo informes recebidos, a situação das colheitas é muito boa e todos os ramos da actividade commercial e industrial mostram uma vitalidade crescente.

COMMERCIO ENTRE O PERU E OS ESTADOS UNIDOS.

Conforme os dados estatisticos publicados pela Repartição de Estatistica dos Estados Unidos, houve um notavel augmento no commercio entre o Peru e os Estados Unidos durante o anno de 1907. O valor dos generos peruanos importados pelos Estados Unidos durante o anno de 1907, foi de $4,154,790 em excesso do valor dos importados em 1906, ao passo que os generos norte-americanos exportados para o Peru augmentaram de $1,672,762.

A mina de Cerro de Pasco contribuiu com 10,000 toneladas para o total de 28,000 toneladas de cobre que foram importadas pelos Estados Unidos, de procedencia da America do Sul.

O relatorio da Corporação Peruana é outra prova da prosperidade commercial do paiz, pois as transacções desta companhia no anno que terminou em 30 de junho de 1907, mostram um lucro de $1,000,000.

CONDIÇÕES COMMERCIAES EM SALVADOR.

O movimento de exportação da Republica de Salvador nos primeiros seis mezes de 1907, foi no valor de $5,642,700, dos quaes $4,369,600 representam as exportações do café. Os direitos de exportação e de importação, comparados com os cobrados em igual periodo do anno anterior, demonstram uma pequena diminuição, sendo na importancia de $282,293 e $1,440,194, respectivamente. Os Estados Unidos figuram em primeiro lugar entre os paizes de destino.

RENDAS ADUANEIRAS E COMMERCIO DO URUGUAY EM 1907.

Calcula-se que as rendas aduaneiras da Republica do Uruguay no anno de 1907, attingirão ao total de $13,000,000, o que mostra um sensivel augmento em confronto com as do anno anterior. No ultimo mez do anno notava-se maior actividade commercial em toda a parte da Republica.

Houve um augmento de $810,395 nas importações provenientes dos Estados Unidos, e uma diminuição de $1,076,482, nas exportações com este destino.

REGULAMENTO DOS SERVIÇOS TELEGRAPHICOS E TELEPHONICOS EM VENEZUELA.

Pelo decreto de 20 de dezembro de 1907, o Governo de Venezuela tem quasi o monopolio dos serviços telegraphicos e telephonicos na Republica, pois em virtude do disposto no Artigo I deste decreto, o Executivo Federal tem o direito exclusivo de estabelecer taes emprezas.

Publicamos tambem certas modificações feitas na tarifa de Venezuela, as quaes entrarão em vigor no ultimo mez do corrente anno.

REPUBLICA ARGENTINA.

CONTRACTO PARA A VENDA DA ESTRADA DE FERRO ANDINA.

O Presidente da Republica enviou ao Congresso Nacional, em 13 de dezembro de 1907, o contracto que foi ultimamente assignado *ad referendum* entre o Ministro de Obras Publicas da Republica e os representantes da Estrada de Ferro de Buenos Aires a Rosario, e da Argentina Central.

Em virtude da clausula XV. deste contracto, a Companhia da Estrada de Ferro Argentina Central compromette-se a comprar todas as linhas da Estrada de Ferro Andina, incluindo os terrenos, edificios, material fixo e rodante, materiaes em deposito, os depositos, officinas e mais dependencias da linha. O preço de venda é estipulado na quantia de $27,828,000, moeda nacional, pagavel em oito prestações iguaes, vencendo o juro annual de 5 por cento, as quaes serão pagas por trimestres.

Fica estipulado que o accordo será nullo e sem effeito caso não fôr approvado pelo Congresso Nacional durante a actual sessão.

BRAZIL.

PROPAGANDA DOS PRODUCTOS NACIONAES.

O Art. XIV. do projecto de lei n. 401, que foi approvado pelo Congresso Nacional em 10 de dezembro de 1907, autoriza o Ministerio da Industria, Viação e Obras Publicas a despender a quantia de 4,000:000$, ouro, podendo abrir os necessarios creditos ou fazer as precisas operações de credito, para desenvolver, nos paizes estrangeiros, o consumo dos diversos productos agricolas e mineraes brazileiros, estabelecendo premios e subvenções.

As subvenções serão principalmente concedidas ás emprezas e aos particulares que:

(*a*) Nas localidades, onde já existam casas que negociem em café em grão, estabeleçam, por sua conta, torrefacções onde o café moido seja vendido a retalho ou já preparado como nos *cafés* desta capital (Rio de Janeiro);

(*b*) Nessas localidades ou nas suas proximidades estabeleçam casas onde seja o café vendido moido ou já preparado, mas sendo comprado nas torrefacções mencionadas na lettra *a*;

(*c*) Nas localidades onde não existam casas que negociem nesse producto, especialmente nos pequenos povoados, estabeleçam essas casas, tendo ao lado pequenas torrefacções, onde seja o café vendido, já moido ou preparado.

Com relação aos outros productos, o Governo procurará applicar o mesmo systema de subvenção, fazendo com que nas casas mencionadas existam sempre em exposição amostras de outros productos, como o matte, o cacáo, assucar, fumo e seus preparados, etc., acompanhadas de breves noticias sobre a procedencia, preço e outras informações que facilitem o seu consumo.

Os premios serão concedidos como estimulo a essas mesmas emprezas ou particulares que, no fim de cada semestre, e á vista dos resultados obtidos quanto á venda, mostrem, a juizio do Governo, ter empregado, realmente actividade e esforços para o desenvolvimento do consumo de qualquer dos productos.

O Governo é autorizado a iniciar e manter esse modo de propaganda para o desenvolvimento do consumo dos productos brazileiros, junto aos consulados brazileiros, e de crear, sob a direcção dos respectivos consules, uma secção de fiscalização, devendo os consules enviar, no fim de cada semestre, ao Ministerio da Industria, Viação e Obras Publicas um relatorio sobre os estabelecimentos subvencionados e o seu desenvolvimento.

Além dos meios indicados nos paragraphos anteriores, o Governo poderá applicar outros, sempre de caracter commercial, como conceder, no maximo, até 20 por cento de reducção das taxas de importação para os productos sem similares no Brazil e provenientes de paizes que, por accordos ou convenios commerciaes, de prazo não inferior a tres annos, concedam nas respectivas tarifas isenção ou reducção convenientes aos productos brazileiros.

O Governo é tambem autorizado a organizar um serviço regular de propaganda das riquezas mineraes do paiz.

CONVENÇÃO PARA A CREAÇÃO DE UMA COMMISSÃO INTERNACIONAL DE JURISCONSULTOS.

O "Diario Official" de 29 de janeiro de 1907, publica o decreto do Presidente Affonso Penna, de 27 de dezembro, approvando a Convenção concluida na cidade do Rio de Janeiro, na Terceira Conferencia Internacional Americana, creando uma Commissão Internacional de Jurisconsultos.

TRATADO DE LIMITES COM A COLOMBIA.

(Approvado pelo Governo Brazileiro em 9 de janeiro de 1908.)

A Republica dos Estados Unidos do Brazil e a Republica da Colombia, desejosas de consolidar em bases firmes e duradouras as suas antigas relações de paz e amizade, de supprimir quaesquer motivos de desavença e de facilitar o desenvolvimento de seus interesses de boa visinhança e de commercio, resolveram celebrar o seguinte tratado, tendo em consideração, para um accordo amistoso, o estado das suas posses e direitos respectivos, e para esse fim nomearam seus plenipotenciarios, a saber:

S. Ex. o Presidente da Republica dos Estados Unidos do Brazil, o Sr. Dr. Enéas Martins, Ministro Residente em Missão Especial junto ao Governo da Colombia, e S. Ex. o Presidente da Republica da Colombia, o Sr. Gen. Alfredo Vasquez Cobo, Ministro das Relações Exteriores, os quaes, depois de haverem exhibido seus plenos poderes, que foram encontrados em devida forma, estipularam o seguinte:

"Artigo I. A fronteira do Brazil e da Colombia, entre a Pedra de Cucuhy, no Rio Negro, e a desembocadura do Rio Apapóris, na margem esquerda do Rio Japurá ou Caquetá, será a seguinte:

"§ 1°. Da Ilha de S. José, em frente á Pedra de Cucuhy, com rumo Oeste demandará a margem direita do Rio Negro que cortará aos 1° 13′ 51.76″ de latitude Norte e 23° 39′ 11.51″ de longitude occidental do Rio de Janeiro, ou 7° 16′ 25.9″ de longitude oriental de Bogotá, seguindo desse ponto em linha recta até encontrar a cabeceira do pequeno Rio Macaçuny (ou Macapury), affluente da margem direita do Rio Negro ou Guainja, affluente que fica todo em territorio colombiano.

"§ 2°. Da cabeceira do Macaçuny (ou Macapury) continuará a fronteira pelo *divortium aquarum* até passar entre a cabeceira do igarapé Japery, affluente do Rio Xié, e a cabeceira do Rio Tomo, affluente do Rio Guainia, no ponto assignalado pelas coordenadas 2° 1′ 26.65″ de latitude Norte e 24° 26′ 38.58″ de longitude occidental do Rio de Janeiro ou 6° 28′ 59.8″ de longitude oriental do meridiano de Bogotá.

"§ 3°. Continuará a fronteira, na direcção do occidente, pela parte mais alta do terreno sinuoso que separa as aguas que seguem para o Norte, das aguas que seguem para o Sul, até encontrar o Cerro Caparro, a partir do qual continuará sempre pelo mais alto do terreno e separando as aguas que vão para o Rio Guainia das aguas que correm para o Rio Cuiary (ou Iquiary), até á nascente principal do Rio Memachi, affluente do Rio Naquieni, que por sua vez é affluente do Guainia.

"§ 4°. A partir da nascente principal do Memachi, aos 2° 1′ 27.03″ de latitude Norte e 25° 4′ 22.65″ de longitude occidental do meridiano do Rio de Janeiro, ou 5° 51′ 15.8″ de longitude oriental de Bogotá, seguirá a linha de fronteira pela parte mais elevada do terreno em busca da cabeceira principal do affluente do Cuiary (ou Iquiary), que fique mais proximo da cabeceira do Memachi, continuando pelo curso do dito affluente até á confluencia delle e do citado Cuiary (ou Iquiary).

"§ 5°. Dessa confluencia baixará a linha de fronteira pelo thalweg do dito Cuiary até o ponto em que nelle desemboca o Rio Pegua, seu affluente da margem esquerda, e da confluencia do Pegua e do Cuiary seguirá a linha da fronteira para o occidente, e pelo parallelo dessa confluencia, até encontrar o meridiano que passa pela confluencia do Kerary e do Uaupés.

"§ 6°. Ao encontrar o meridiano que passa pela confluencia do rio Kerary (ou Cairary) e do rio Uaupés, a linha da fronteira baixará por esse meridiano até a dita confluencia, donde continuará pelo thalweg do rio Uaupés até a desembocadura do Rio Capury, affluente da margem direita do referido Uaupés, perto da cabeceira Jauarité.

"§ 7°. Da desembocadura do referido Rio Capury seguirá a fronteira para occidente pelo thalweg do mesmo Capury até sua nascente mais ou menos aos 69° 30′ de longitude occidental de Greenwich, baixando pelo meridiano dessa nascente em demanda do Taraira, seguindo logo pelo thalweg do dito Taraira até a sua fóz no Apapóris e pelo thalweg do Apaporis á sua desembocadura no Rio Japurá ou Caquetá, onde termina a parte de fronteira estabelecida pelo presente tratado, ficando assim definida a linha de fronteira Pedra Cucuhy-Fóz do Apaporis, e o resto da fronteira entre os dois paizes disputada, sujeito a posterior negociação, no caso de vir a ter ganho de causa Colombia em seus outros litigios com o Peru e o Equador.

"Art. II. Uma commissão mixta nomeada pelos dous Governos, dentro do prazo de um anno a contar da troca das ratificações, procederá á demarcação da fronteira estabelecida por este tratado.

"§ 1°. Por protocollos especiaes serão combinadas a constituição e as instrucções para os trabalhos dessa commissão mixta, a qual deve começar seus trabalhos dentro de oito mezes a contar da data de sua nomeação.

"§ 2°. Fica desde logo estabelecido que, para fechar e completar a linha de fronteira, onde seja necessario fazel-o, por falta de accidentes no terreno, serão adoptados os circulos parallelos ao Equador, e as linhas meridianas de preferencia a quaesquer linhas obliquas.

"Art. III. Todas as duvidas que se apresentarem durante a demarcação, serão amigavelmente resolvidas pelas Altas Partes Contractantes, ás quaes serão, submettidas pelos respectivos commissarios, continuando entretanto a demarcação.

"Si os dous Governos não puderem chegar a um accordo directo, declaram desde já o seu proposito de recorrer á decisão de um arbitro.

"Art. IV. As duas Altas Partes Contractantes concluirão, no prazo de 12 mezes, um tratado de commercio e navegação, baseado no principio da mais ampla liberdade de transito terrestre e navegação fluvial para ambas as nações, direito que ellas se reconhecem perpetuamente, a partir da approvação deste tratado, em todo o curso dos rios que nascem ou correm dentro ou nas extremidades da região determinada pela linha de fronteira que elle estabelece, devendo observar-se os regulamentos fiscaes e de policia estabelecidos ou que se estabelecerem no territorio de cada uma, regulamentos que em nenhum caso estabelecerão maiores onus ou formalidades para as embarcações, effeitos e pessoas dos brazileiros em Colombia que os que se tenha estabelecidos ou se estabeleçam em Colombia para os nacionaes colombianos, ou no Brazil para os nacionaes brazileiros.

"Os navios colombianos, destinados á navegação desses rios, communicarão livremente com o Oceano pelo Amazonas. Os regulamentos fiscaes e de policia deverão ser tão favoraveis, quanto seja possivel, á navegação, e ao commercio, e guardarão nos dous paizes a possivel uniformidade. Fica entendido e declarado que não se comprehende nessa navegação a de porto a porto do mesmo paiz, ou de cabotagem fluvial, que continuará sujeita em cada um dos dous Estados ás suas respectivas leis.

"ART. V. O presente tratado, depois de devida e regularmente approvado na Republica dos Estados Unidos do Brazil e na Republica da Colombia, será ratificado pelos dous Governos, e as ratificações serão trocadas na cidade de Bogotá ou na do Rio de Janeiro no mais breve prazo possivel.

"Em fé do que nós, os plenipotenciarios de uma e outra Republica, o assignamos e sellamos com os nossos sellos particulares, em Bogotá, aos 24 do mez de abril de 1907.

[L. S.] "ENÉAS MARTINS.

[L. S.] "ALFREDO VASQUEZ COBO."

ACCORDO DE MODUS VIVENDI SOBRE O PUTUMAYO, ENTRE O BRAZIL E COLOMBIA.

Os Governos do Brazil e da Colombia, com o proposito de desenvolver a navegação e as relações de commercio entre os seus respectivos paizes, pelo Rio Içá ou Putumayo, concordaram na celebração de um *modus vivendi* com tal fim, e para esse effeito, reunidos no Ministerio das Relações Exteriores da Colombia o Ministro Residente do Brazil em Missão Especial, Sr. Dr. ENÉAS MARTINS, e o Ministro das Relações Exteriores de Colombia, Sr. Gen. ALFREDO VASQUEZ COBO, discutiram e accordaram em nome dos seus respectivos Governos e por elles devidamente autorizados, segundo os plenos poderes que exhibem, no seguinte:

"ARTIGO I. Os navios mercantes brazileiros e colombianos poderão communicar livremente nos portos que o Brazil e a Colombia têm habilitados ou venham a habilitar no Rio Içá ou Putumayo, isentos de quaesquer impostos que não sejam os de pharóes ou semelhantes, destinados a auxilios que se prestem á navegação e sujeitando-se aos regulamentos fiscaes e de policia, estabelecidos pelas autoridades competentes de cada um dos dous paizes para seu respectivo territorio.

"Os navios colombianos destinados á navegação do Putumayo poderão communicar livremente com o Oceano pelo Amazonas.

"ART. II. No regimen do presente accordo, o despacho das mercadorias de procedencia estrangeira, que para Colombia se dirijam pelo Amazonas e pelo Içã ou Putumayo, poderá ser feito nas alfandegas de Manáos ou Belém, como entrepostos, segundo a legislação brazileira.

"A exportação de generos colombianos poderá tambem ser feita pelas ditas alfandegas, sempre que a ellas cheguem taes generos devidamente acompanhados por guias de exportação expedidas no lugar de origem por autoridades colombianas e authenticadas pelas autoridades do posto fiscal brazileiro do Içá.

"ART. III. O Brazil permittirá—notificando préviamente o seu numero—a passagem pelo Amazonas e pelo Içá, aos navios de guerra colombianos que se dirijam a aguas de jurisdicção colombiana no Putumayo. Reciprocamente, Colombia permittirá a navegação aos navios de guerra brazileiros nas aguas de sua jurisdicção no Putumayo.

"Esses navios ficarão submettidos aos regulamentos fiscaes e de policia, no caso de receberem mercadorias nos respectivos portos.

"ART. IV. O presente *modus vivendi* entrará em vigor immediatamente e durará até ser denunciado ou modificado por mutuo accordo entre os dous Governos.

"Para constar assignam e sellam com seus sellos particulares o presente accordo, em Bogotá, aos vinte e quatro de abril de mil novecentos e sete.

"(Assignado) ENÉAS MARTINS.
"(Assignado) ALFREDO VASQUEZ COBO."

PROTOCOLLO COMPLEMENTAR DO MODUS VIVENDI ASSIGNADO ENTRE O BRAZIL E A COLOMBIA EM 24 DE ABRIL DE 1907.

"Reunidos no Ministerio das Relações Exteriores da Colombia, o Ministro Residente do Brazil em Missão Especial, Sr. Dr. ENÉAS MARTINS, Plenipotenciario Brazileiro, e o Ministro das Relações Exteriores da Colombia, Sr. Gen. ALFREDO VASQUEZ COBO, Plenipotenciario Colombiano, signatarios do accordo de *modus vivendi* sobre o Içá ou Putumayo de vinte e quatro de abril de mil novecentos e sete, concordaram, em nome dos seus respectivos Governos e como parte integrante desse *modus vivendi*, em que o referido accordo do *modus vivendi* sobre o Içá ou Putumayo ficará nullo e de nenhum effeito no caso de não ser approvado ou ratificado opportunamente o tratado de fronteira, tambem assignado em data de hoje, entre a Pedra de Cucuhy e a desembocadura do Apaporis no Japurá ou Caquetá.

"Para constar, assignam o presente em duplicata e o sellam com seus sellos particulares em Bogotá, aos vinte e quatro de abril de mil novecentos e sete.

"(Assignado) ENÉAS MARTINS.
"(Assignado) ALFREDO VASQUEZ COBO."

COLOMBIA.

EXPLORAÇÃO DO MARFIM VEGETAL NAS FLORESTAS NACIONAES.

O Presidente REYES, da Republica da Colombia, promulgou em 26 de dezembro de 1907, um decreto, em virtude do qual, a exploração do marfim vegetal nas florestas nacionaes situadas nas bacias dos rios Atrato e Leon, e nas margens do Golfo de Urabá, poderá ser feita por companhias e particulares, sem concessão ou licença especial, sob as seguintes condições: (*a*) Cada tonelada de marfim vegetal deverá pagar um direito de exportação de $2; (*b*) o pagamento do referido imposto deverá ser feito na respectiva alfandega, a partir de 1° de abril de 1908.

CUBA.

RELATORIO DO GOVERNADOR PROVISORIO PARA O ANNO DE 1907.

O Governador Provisorio da Republica de Cuba, nomeado de accordo com o tratado celebrado entre esse paiz e os Estados Unidos, apresentou, em 12 de janeiro de 1908, seu relatorio annual ao Secretario da Guerra dos Estados Unidos, no qual trata minuciosamente das condições economicas que teem prevalecido na ilha desde a revolução de 1906 até a data.

A situação economica da Republica é satisfactoria. Em outubro do anno de 1906, se receava que a revolução tinha destruido o credito financeiro da Republica, e que a prolongada secca tinha prejudicado enormemente as colheitas de canna de assucar, de fumo, fructas e legumes. Era a opinião geral que as rendas das alfandegas diminuiriam e que as receitas do fisco não seriam sufficientes para fazer frente ás despezas do Governo. Porém, succedeu o contrario do que se esperava. A ilha produziu mais assucar que nunca; a colheita do fumo foi relativamente pequena, porém de qualidade superior, e os preços obtidos pelo producto foram os mais altos jamais registrados na historia da industria em Cuba. As colheitas de fructas e legumes foram abundantes e demonstraram um augmento satisfactorio na area em cultivo, em comparação com os annos anteriores, e, ainda que a producção diminuiu como resultado da secca, os preços obtidos foram altos. As rendas aduaneiras augmentaram consideravelmente, e o estado do Thesouro continuou a ser excellente.

O valor das mercadorias importadas durante o exercicio de 1906–7 foi de $96,673,989, ou menos $7,721,603 que no exercicio anterior. A exportação neste periodo attingiu a $110,764,937, ou mais $5,565,622 que no exercicio de 1906.

O estado da industria assucareira está florescente. É a opinião geral que a colheita do presente anno attingirá a 1,150,000 toneladas, e que, como resultado da diminuição havida na producção mundial, o preço será mais elevado que o da actualidade.

ESTADOS UNIDOS.

COMMERCIO COM A AMERICA LATINA EM 1907.

O volume total do commercio dos Estados Unidos com os paizes latino-americanos durante o anno de 1907, foi no valor de $558,279,201, (exportações, $240,553,068 e importações, $317,726,133), contra $521,311,077, em 1906, e $493,669,785 em 1905. Desses algarismos resulta um augmento a favor de 1907, de $36,968,124.

O valor do commercio com os paizes da America Central durante o anno de 1907 ascendeu a $45,087,355, contra $38,690,379 em 1906, o que mostra um augmento de $6,396,976. O commercio com o Mexico augmentou de $114,273,188 em 1906, a $124,698,413 em 1907, resultando um augmento a favor de 1907, de $10,425,225.

O commercio dos Estados Unidos com Cuba foi no valor de $144,973,116 em 1907, contra $131,544,878 no anno anterior, verificando-se um augmento de $13,428,238 a favor de 1907. Nota-se o pequeno augmento de $63,578 no commercio com Haiti, sendo no valor de $4,366,273 em 1907, contra $4,302,755 em 1906. O commercio com a Republica Dominicana foi no valor de $5,860,693 em 1907, contra $5,735,717 em 1906, do que resulta um augmento de $124,976 a favor de 1907.

Os paizes sul-americanos figuram neste commercio com $233,293,-351, contra $226,764,160 em 1906, o que mostra um augmento de $6,529,191. Deste augmento, $4,452,191 representam o augmento verificado nas exportações de productos dos Estados Unidos para o Brazil.

O quadro dado na pagina 367, compilado de dados organizados pela Repartição de Estatistica dos Estados Unidos, mostra o movimento da importação e da exportação, por paizes de origem e de destino.

COMMERCIO EXTERIOR EM 1907.

Segundo os dados estatisticos publicados pela Repartição de Estatistica, o valor total do commercio exterior dos Estados Unidos durante o anno de 1907 foi de $3,346,684,960, contra $3,118,745,006 no anno de 1906, o qual mostra um augmento de $227,939,954 a favor do anno de 1907. O movimento da importação foi no valor de $1,423,289,693 em 1907, contra $1,320,501,572 em 1906, ao passo que a exportação attingiu a $1,923,395,267 em 1907, comparada com

$1,798,243,434 em 1906. Desses algarismos resulta um balanço commercial de $500,105,574 a favor dos Estados Unidos, contra $477,741,-862 verificado no anno anterior.

Do valor total das importações em 1907, $736,959,040, ou mais que a metade do total, representam o valor das mercadorias procedentes da Europa, o que mostra um augmento de $35,000,000, em comparação com o anno de 1906. As importações procedentes de paizes norte-americanos augmentaram em $26,000,000, contribuindo o Mexico para este augmento com $5,000,000, e a America Central, com $2,000,000. O valor das importações procedentes de paizes sul-americanos foi virtualmente o mesmo em 1907 que em 1906, sendo de $147,680,943 e $147,941,781, respectivamente. Comparando-se a importação dessa procedencia com a do anno de 1905, vê-se que houve um augmento de cerca de $3,000,000. As importações procedentes da Asia augmentaram em $19,000,000; as procedentes da Oceania em mais de $9,000,000, e as provenientes da Africa em mais de $10,000,000. A preponderancia da Europa no caso das exportações é ainda maior: de um total de $1,923,395,267, $1,313,-045,045 representam as com destino á Europa, ou mais de $67,000,000 que no anno anterior. Nota-se um augmento de $36,000,000 nas exportações com destino a paizes norte-americanos, dos quaes mais de $5,000,000 representam o augmento com o Mexico, e mais de $4,000,000 com a America Central. As exportações com destino a paizes sul-americanos foram no valor de $15,612,408, contra $78,822,379 em 1906, o qual mostra um augmento de mais de $6,000,000 a favor de 1907. As exportações com destino á Asia augmentaram em $10,000,000; as com destino á Oceania em $5,000,000, e as para Africa em $500,000.

O valor official do commercio exterior durante os dous annos, em comparação, foi como segue:

Paizes.	Importação.		Exportação.	
	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.
Europa	$700,067,050	$736,959,040	$1,246,573,163	$1,313,045,045
America do Norte	240,709,681	267,133,933	325,886,319	362,180,385
America do Sul	147,941,781	147,680,943	78,822,379	85,612,408
Asia	196,369,212	216,233,770	89,075,358	99,127,195
Oceania	22,962,203	32,566,935	39,516,547	44,549,490
Africa	12,451,645	22,715,072	18,369,668	18,880,744
Total	1,320,501,572	1,423,289,693	1,798,243,434	1,923,395,267

O movimento do ouro durante o anno foi o seguinte: Importações, $143,398,066, ou menos $12,181,314 que no anno de 1906; exportações, $55,215,681, ou seja um augmento de $8,506,523 sobre o anno anterior. As importações de prata ascenderam a $46,013,976, contra $44,227,841 em 1906, e as exportações deste metal attingiram a $61,625,866 em 1907, contra $60,957,091 no anno anterior.

O movimento maritimo durante o anno foi o seguinte: Entraram embarcações a vela de 2,905,768 toneladas, e embarcações a vapor de 35,513,482 toneladas, contra 32,454,853 toneladas em 1906; sahiram embarcações a vela de 3,070,065 toneladas, embarcações a vapor de 35,186,499 toneladas, contra 31,749,576 toneladas no anno anterior.

CONTINUA EM VIGOR A CONCESSÃO FEITA A GENEROS DE PROCEDENCIA NORTE-AMERICANA.

O Congresso Brazileiro approvou em 11 de janeiro ultimo o decreto mandando observar dentro do exercicio de 1908 a lei de 30 de junho de 1906, que concede uma reducção de 20 por cento nos direitos de importação sobre alguns artigos de procedencia norte-americana.

DISTANCIAS RELATIVAS ENTRE PORTOS DO ATLANTICO E DO PACIFICO POR MAR E TERRA.

Segundo os dados organizados pela Repartição de Estatistica dos Estados Unidos, a distancia entre New York e San Francisco pelo caminho directo por terra, é de 3,191 milhas; via Tehuantepec, 4,415 milhas; via Panamá, 5,305 milhas, e via Estreito de Magalhães, 13,089 milhas. A distancia entre New York e Port Townsend, é de 3,199 milhas por terra; de 5,190 milhas, via Tehuantepec; 6,080 milhas, via Panamá, e 13,848 milhas, via Estreito de Magalhães. Entre New York e Honolulu, a distancia por terra via San Francisco, é de 5,288 milhas; via Port Townsend, 5,659 milhas; via Tehuantepec, 5,806 milhas; via Panamá, 6,686 milhas, e via Estreito de Magalhães, 13,269 milhas.

CONVENÇÃO FIXANDO A CONDIÇÃO DOS CIDADÃOS NATURALIZADOS.

O Congresso dos Estados Unidos approvou em 13 de janeiro de 1908, a convenção firmada pelos delegados dos Governos representados na Terceira Conferencia Internacional Americana, fixando a condição dos cidadãos naturalizados que renovam a sua residencia no paiz de origem.

A convenção foi submettida ao Presidente dos Estados Unidos pelo Secretario de Estado em 1° de março de 1907, e por elle foi apresentado ao Congresso Nacional para sua approvação.

As clausulas da convenção são as seguintes:

"Artigo I. Quando um cidadão nato de qualquer dos paizes que assignam a presente convenção, e naturalizado em outro delles, renovar a sua residencia no paiz de origem, sem a intenção de regressar áquelle em que se tiver naturalizado, será considerado como tendo reassumido a sua originaria qualidade de cidadão e como tendo renunciado á qualidade de cidadão adquirida com essa naturalização.

"ART. II. A intenção de não regressar será presumida, quando a pessoa naturalizada residir no paiz de origem por mais de dous annos. Porém essa presumpção poderá ser destruida por prova em contrario.

"ART. III. Esta convenção entrará em vigor, entre os paizes que a ratificarem, tres mezes depois da data em que esses paizes communicarem a sua ratificação ao Governo dos Estados Unidos do Brazil; e, si fôr denunciada por um delles, continuará em vigor por mais um anno, a contar da data da denuncia.

"ART. IV. A denuncia desta convenção, por qualquer dos Estados signatarios, far-se-ha perante o Governo dos Estados Unidos do Brazil, e sómente terá effeito para o paiz que a fizer."

MEXICO.

COMMERCIO EXTERIOR DURANTE OS PRIMEIROS QUATRO MEZES DE 1907–8.

Segundo os dados publicados pela Divisão de Estatistica do Departamento da Fazenda e Credito Publico da Republica do Mexico, o valor total dos generos importados durante os primeiros quatro mezes de 1907–8 (julho a outubro de 1907) foi de 82,798,007.66 *pesos*, contra 68,574,700.19 *pesos* em igual periodo do anno anterior, do que resulta uma differença de 14,423,307.47 *pesos* a favor de 1907–8. Foram importados durante o mez de outubro de 1907, generos no valor de 21,890,617 *pesos*, contra 18,282,732.61 *pesos* em igual mez de 1906, o que mostra um augmento de 3,607,884.62 *pesos*.

A exportação no periodo em referencia foi avaliada em 86,373,450.26 *pesos*, em comparação com 72,768,991.91 *pesos* em igual periodo do exercicio de 1906–7, verificando-se um augmento de 13,604,458.35 *pesos* a favor de 1907. Foram exportados durante o mez de outubro de 1907, generos no valor de 21,568,413.86 *pesos*, contra 19,001,191.17 *pesos* em igual mez de 1906, o que mostra um augmento de 2,567,222.69 *pesos* a favor de 1907.

MOVIMENTO DAS MERCADORIAS NORTE-AMERICANAS PELO ISTHMO DE TEHUANTEPEC EM 1907.

O valor total das mercadorias transportadas entre os portos da costa oriental e os da costa occidental dos Estados Unidos via Isthmo de Tehuantepec durante o anno de 1907, é calculado em 25 até 30 milhões de dollars. Segundo os dados fornecidos á Repartição de Estatistica do Departamento do Commercio e Trabalho, o valor das mercadorias enviadas dos portos da costa oriental dos Estados Unidos para o Pacifico via Tehuantepec foi, no primeiro trimestre do anno,

de $1,330,000, approximadamente; no segundo trimestre, mais de $4,000,000; no terceiro trimestre, mais de $4,000,000; e no quarto trimestre, $4,000,000, approximadamente. As mercadorias enviadas da costa do Pacifico via Tehuantepec consistiram em sua maior parte de assucar proveniente do Hawaii, pois os exportadores de Hawaii ágora enviam o assucar com destino á costa oriental dos Estados Unidos via Isthmo de Tehuantepec, em vez de pelo Cabo Horn como outr'ora. A quantidade de assucar enviado das ilhas Hawaii para os portos do Atlantico (principalmente Philadelphia e New York) durante o primeiro trimestre do anno foi no valor de um pouco menos de $2,000,000; no segundo trimestre, de $3,500,000; no terceiro trimestre, de mais de $5,000,000, e no quarto trimestre, de $5,000,000, approximadamente.

Os navios empregados no transporte do assucar vão, durante os mezes da colheita, directamente de Hawaii ao ponto terminal no Pacifico da estrada de ferro de Tehuantepec, e depois de descarregarem, tomam a direcção norte pela costa occidental dos Estados Unidos até San Francisco, e ás vezes até os portos do Estreito de Puget e daqui ás ilhas Hawaii, aonde recebem carga e vão outra vez para o porto de Tehuantepec, durante a época da colheita do assucar, e em outras épocas do anno, para o porto de San Francisco e daqui pela costa até o porto de Tehuantepec. A distancia entre Hawaii e New York via Tehuantepec é de 5,806 milhas, contra 12,269 milhas que representa a distancia via Cabo Horn. A abertura ao trafego desta nova linha transcontinental tem sido de grande beneficio ás industrias dos Estados Unidos, que não só forneceram os materiaes necessarios a sua construcção, mas tambem o petroleo que se usa nas suas locomotivas vem dos poços do Texas, ainda que se espere que no proximo futuro este combustivel seja fornecido pelos terrenos de petroleo do Mexico adjacentes á linha. A quantidade de cargas transportadas por esta nova linha no anno de 1907, o primeiro do seu funccionamento, é calculada em 600,000 toneladas. A estrada entronca-se com outras linhas que a ligam a Vera Cruz e á cidade de Mexico, assim pondo-a em communicação directa com os systemas de viação do Mexico e dos Estados Unidos.

As mercadorias norte-americanas em transito pelo Isthmo são transportadas em carros fechados e entram nos portos dos Estados Unidos livres de direitos. O Governo do Mexico tem um grande numero de agentes fiscaes nos dous pontos terminaes da estrada para impedir que as mercadorias norte-americanas que tenham de transitar pelo Isthmo, sejam introduzidas clandestinamente no Mexico, ao passo que o Governo dos Estados Unidos tambem mantem um agente em um e outro termino da linha para impedir que generos mexicanos sejam incluidos entre os americanos que tenham de passar

pelo Isthmo. Os pontos terminaes da linha estão dotados de cáes de aço do typo mais moderno, apparelhados de guindastes a vapor e electricos, de modo que os carros da linha podem receber cargas ou descarregar directamente para os navios atracados no cáes. O tempo exigido para o transporte de mercadorias atravez do Isthmo é de menos de vinte e quatro horas e o tempo necessario para todo o serviço, desde o desembarque em um porto até o embarque no outro, é menos de quarenta e oito horas. Linhas de vapores fazem o serviço regular entre Coatzacoalcos no lado do Golfo e Philadelphia e New York, e entre Salina Cruz no lado do Pacifico e os portos da costa occidental dos Estados Unidos e as ilhas Hawaii, ao passo que diversas linhas fazendo o serviço com paizes estrangeiros tambem tocam nestes portos.

Este enorme augmento no intercambio commercial entre os portos do Atlantico e do Pacifico por via da pequena faixa de terra que separa esses oceanos, é devido principalmente á abertura ao trafego, em principios de 1907, da Estrada de Ferro de Tehuantepec, com uma extensão de 190 milhas, sendo seus pontos terminaes Goatzacoalcos, no lado do Atlantico, e Salina Cruz, no lado do Pacifico. A ligação dos dous oceanos por uma linha de menos do 200 milhas de extensão foi projectada antes que fosse construida a primeira estrada de ferro transcontinental nos Estados Unidos, a primeira concessão tendo sido feita pelo Governo do Mexico em 1857. Mas como esta concessão, assim como as posteriormente feitas, não deram resultado, o Governo mexicano em 1882 tomou a si a construcção da linha, fazendo para isso varios contratos, em virtude dos quaes a linha foi concluida em 1894; mas devido a condições defeituosas tornou-se necessario reconstruil-a em parte, sendo essa reconstrucção feita mediante um arranjo que o Governo do Mexico fez com una firma da Grã Bretanha, tendo sido a linha effectivamente aberta ao trafego em janeiro de 1907.

RENDAS ADUANEIRAS EM DEZEMBRO DE 1907.

As rendas arrecadadas pelas alfandegas da Republica no mez de dezembro de 1907, foram na importancia de $4,687,312.54, sendo $4,516,961.31 o producto dos direitos de importação; $69,494.66 o dos direitos de exportação, e $100,856.57 os impostos de doca.

EXPORTAÇÃO DO HENNEQUEN EM 1907.

A quantidade total de hennequen exportado pelos portos de Progresso e Campeche, Estado de Yucatan, durante o anno de 1907, foi de 652,188 fardos, contra 626,785 fardos em 1906.

A quantidade exportada pelo porto de Progresso, que é o principal porto de exportação desse producto, foi de 613,747 fardos, sendo 2,500 fardos exportados pelo porto de Campeche.

Da quantidade total exportada, 590,923 fardos foram com destino aos Estados Unidos, sendo o restante distribuido entre os seguintes paizes:

Paizes.	Fardos.	Paizes.	Fardos.
Canadá	45,860	Italia	275
Cuba	8,282	Hespanha	185
Inglaterra	4,245	Austria	120
Belgica	1,253	Russia	7
Allemanha	681	Republica Argentina	4
França	350	Brazil	3

NICARAGUA.

NOVA LEI DE AGRICULTURA.

Com o fim de promover por todos os meios possiveis a agricultura e a industria pecuaria da Republica, as quaes são as principaes fontes da riqueza do paiz, o Presidente da Republica promulgou, em data de 22 de novembro de 1907, uma lei creando um Conselho Superior, Juntas e Commissões de Agricultura e Industria Pecuaria. O Conselho Superior será composto de cinco membros, com sede em Managua, a capital da Republica, tendo como seu presidente o Ministro do Fomento. Uma junta de agricultura e industria pecuaria será estabelecida em cada departamento e nos Territorios de San Juan del Norte e Cabo de Gracias á Dios, tendo commissões nas villas e aldeias. As juntas e commissões ficarão subordinadas ao Conselho Superior.

A lei em referencia tem seis titulos e vinte e seis secções. O primeiro titulo trata da organização; o segundo, das attribuições e obrigações do Conselho Superior, das juntas e commissões; o terceiro, das obrigações das juntas; o quarto, das obrigações das commissões; o quinto, das attribuições e obrigações dos membros e das directorias dessas juntas, e o sexto trata de disposições geraes. O Conselho Superior deverá desenvolver, por intermedio dos consules de Nicaragua, activa propaganda dos productos agricolas nacionaes no exterior.

PANAMÁ.

RENDAS FISCAES EM 1907.

As rendas fiscaes arrecadadas pelo Governo do Panamá no anno de 1907 foram na importancia de $2,439,301.68, ou $5,436.05 em excesso da estimativa orçamentaria. Esta somma foi proveniente das seguintes fontes:

	1906.	1907.
Imposto de 10 por cento sobre mercadorias	$593,657.20	$757,984.90
Imposto de importação sobre bebidas espirituosas	317,078.48	438,299.10
Imposto sobre fumo e cigarros	45,847.70	205,478.83
Imposto sobre sal	4,664.81	7,669.40
Imposto sobre phosphoros	11,990.68	19,563.38
Imposto sobre café	11,533.47	27,412.76
Imposto sobre opio		3,183.55
Imposto de doca		10,875.57
Imposto sobre distillarias		25,441.87
Imposto sobre gado abatido		127,593.77
Serviço postal		63,420.95
Patentes e marcas de fabrica		1,795.00
Imposto de minas		2,629.65
Imposto de sello		51,197.44
Emolumentos por registros		6,078.17
Imposto sobre generos exportados		43,083.79
Imposto de bens moveis e immoveis		39,152.42
Imposto sobre loterias		63,000.00
Imposto por pesca de madreperola		600.00
Rendas dos proprios do Governo		9,718.02
Emolumentos consulares		89,518.13
Imposto de pharóes		3,530.63
Serviço telegraphico		5,955.22
Rendas diversas		22,118.23
Encommendas postaes		8,971.02
Cambios		5,597.50
Imposto por venda de bebidas espirituosas		84,829.50
Privilegios de costa		425.00
Imposto sobre gado importado		16,841.50
Mercado publico		2,252.02
Enterros		1,084.36
Juros de emprestimos		294,000.00
Total		2,439,301.68

MERCADORIAS DOS ESTADOS UNIDOS QUE TRANSITARAM PELO ISTHMO DE PANAMÁ EM 1907.

O valor das mercadorias procedentes dos Estados Unidos com destino á outras partes dos Estados Unidos ou á paizes estrangeiros, que foram transportadas pela estrada de ferro de Panamá durante o anno de 1907 foi de $12,000,000 até $15,000,000. Desta somma, $4,000,000, approximadamente, representam o valor das mercadorias enviadas de New York para portos dos Estados Unidos no Pacifico; $7,000,000, o valor das mercadorias exportadas de New York para os paizes da America Central e os da costa occidental da America do Sul; e de $2,000,000 a $3,000,000, o valor dos productos enviados de San Francisco para os portos da costa oriental dos Estados Unidos. As mercadorias enviadas de New York para os portos da costa occidental dos Estados Unidos via Panamá, foram com destino a San Diego, Santa Barbara, Los Angeles, Oakland, San Francisco, Portland, Seattle e Spokane, e as que foram enviadas

por este caminho para o exterior foram distribuidas ao Chile, Peru, Equador, Bolivia, Colombia, Panamá, Costa Rica, Honduras, Nicaragua, Guatemala, Mexico e os portos da Colombia Britannica. Estes carregamentos consistiam de mercadorias de todas as classes, avultando a carne, farinha de trigo, tecidos de algodão, oleo mineral, machinas de mineração, manufacturas de ferro e de aço e manufacturas diversas. Os carregamentos enviados de San Francisco via Panamá, para os portos da costa oriental dos Estados Unidos, foram destinados a Tampa, Philadelphia, New York, New Haven e Boston, e consistiam de vinhos, chumbo em linguados, azougue, couros e pelles, e mercadorias diversas.

PERU.

GENEROS IMPORTADOS DE NEW YORK DURANTE O PRIMEIRO SEMESTRE DE 1907.

Durante os primeiros seis mezes de 1907 entraram na Republica, procedentes do porto de New York, generos no valor de $2,557,880, ouro americano. Os generos dessa procedencia recebidos durante o mez de junho do mesmo anno foram no valor de $373,989.

SALVADOR.

MOVIMENTO DA EXPORTAÇÃO DURANTE O PRIMEIRO SEMESTRE DE 1907.

Segundo os ultimos dados estatisticos recebidos de Salvador, a quantidade dos productos exportados durante o primeiro semestre de 1907, foi de 50,079,904 libras, no valor de 11,285,531.03 *pesos*. Os artigos que mais avultaram na exportação foram o café, cuja exportação foi no valor de 8,739,259.50 *pesos*, o assucar e o balsamo. A exportação, por paizes de destino, foi a seguinte: Estados Unidos, 3,543,438.83 *pesos;* França, 2,339,233.03 *pesos;* Allemanha, 1,802,289.13 *pesos*, e Italia, 1,479,214.01 *pesos*.

RENDAS ADUANEIRAS, PRIMEIRO SEMESTRE DE 1907.

O total das rendas arrecadadas pelas alfandegas da Republica de Salvador durante o primeiro semestre de 1907, importou em 2,880,-388.44 *pesos*, sendo 2,280,144.82 *pesos* o producto dos direitos de importação, e 564,586.22 *pesos* o dos direitos de exportação, e o restante sendo proveniente de fontes diversas. Comparando-se as rendas com as de igual periodo de 1906, verifica-se uma diminuição em 1907 de 354,382.25 *pesos*.

MOVIMENTO MARITIMO NO PRIMEIRO SEMESTRE DE 1907.

Segundo os ultimos dados estatisticos recebidos de Salvador, o movimento maritimo da Republica durante o primeiro semestre de 1907 foi o seguinte: Entraram 216 vapores e 75 navios de vela, com 13,313 tripolantes, 15,648 toneladas de carga, 1,747 passageiros, 392 caixas, 2,559 saccos e 337 volumes de malas; sahiram igual numero de vapores e navios de vela, com 343,116 volumes de productos nacionaes, 1,551 passageiros, 376 caixas, 844 saccos e 491 volumes de malas.

URUGUAY.

PRODUCÇÃO DE CEREAES E LINHO EM 1906–7.

O Departamento de Industria Pastoril e de Agricultura da Republica do Uruguay publicou em dezembro de 1907 os dados estatisticos da producção de cereaes e de linho no anno agricola de 1906–7. Conforme esses dados a area sob cultivo foi a seguinte: 252,253 hectares em trigo, 212,154 hectares em milho, 23,529, em linho, 135,944, em aveia, 1,883, em cevada e 2,556, em sementes para passaros. A quantidade semeada durante o anno agricola a que se refere foi a seguinte: Trigo, 17,824,934 kilos; linho, 954,141 kilos; aveia, 135,944 kilos; cevada, 129,652 kilos; sementes para passaros, 84,790 kilos, e milho, 2,661,355 kilos. A producção foi a seguinte: Trigo, 186,884,432 kilos; linho, 21,930,704 kilos; aveia, 1,752,247 kilos; cevada, 1,576,213 kilos; sementes para passaros, 1,638,182 kilos, e milho, 136,136,240 kilos. A producção média por hectare foi a seguinte: Trigo, 740 kilos; linho, 742 kilos, e milho, 641 kilos.

PRODUCÇÃO DE ASSUCAR NA AMERICA LATINA.

A "Brazilian Review" de 3 de dezembro de 1907 publica os dados estatisticos da producção de assucar em diversos paizes da America Latina. Os algarismos correspondentes ao exercicio de 1907–8 apenas representam estimativas, porém, reproduzimoe-os como base para a comparação com a producção do anno anterior.

Paizes.	Toneladas.	
	1907–8.	1906–7.
America Central	24,000	19,000
Republica Argentina	120,000	119,000
Brazil	185,000	215,000
Cuba	1,200,000	1,428,000
Haiti e a Republica Dominicana	60,000	60,000
Mexico	115,000	108,000
Peru	145,000	140,000

VUE D'UNE PARTIE DE LA VILLE DE LIMA, PÉROU.

View of a section of the City of Lima, Peru.

BULLETIN MENSUEL

DU

BUREAU INTERNATIONAL DES RÉPUBLIQUES AMÉRICAINES,

Union Internationale des Républiques Américaines.

VOL. XXVI. FÉVRIER 1908. No. 2.

(Un grand nombre des articles que l'on traite ci-dessous ne sont publiés en entier que dans les parties anglaise et espagnole du BULLETIN.)

C'est à Buenos-Ayres, capitale de la République Argentine, que la quatrième Conférence pan-américaine aura lieu en 1910. On a pris cette décision à la réunion ordinaire du conseil d'administration du Bureau international tenue le 5 février 1908. On a voté à l'unanimité en faveur de Buenos-Ayres et les représentants diplomatiques, en faisant part de l'approbation de leurs gouvernements ont parlé en termes très flatteurs du choix de cette ville comme lieu de réunion. Beaucoup de membres du conseil d'administration assistaient à cette réunion, et ils ont tous montré le plus vif intérêt dans les premières démarches faites en vue de la prochaine conférence des Républiques américaines. Le conseil d'administration a l'intention de faire de grands préparatifs pour cette réunion afin que cette conférence continue dignement le travail fait par les trois conférences précédentes qui ont eu lieu à Washington, à Mexico et à Rio de Janeiro, respectivement. Buenos-Ayres est on ne peut mieux choisi pour le lieu de réunion de la conférence en 1910, car la République Argentine fait des preparatifs pour célébrer dignement le centenaire de l'anniversaire de son indépendance. Cet événement intéresse l'Amérique tout entière. Il y aura une exposition en commémoration de l'anniversaire national qui attirera certainement un grand nombre de personnes des États-Unis et d'Europe. La population de Buenos-Ayres s'élève actuellement à 1,400,000 habitants, et elle augmente aussi rapidement que les autres villes des États-Unis, à l'exception toutefois de New York et de Chicago. Buenos-Ayres, qui peut se compter parmi les grandes capitales du monde, est, par conséquent, un endroit des mieux choisis pour la réunion de la conférence américaine, ainsi que pour une grande exposition inter-

nationale. En choisissant dès maintenant l'endroit et la date, le Gouvernement argentin aura tout le temps nécessaire pour faire ses préparatifs et le conseil d'administration du Bureau pourra préparer le programme de la conférence.

CONVENTIONS ET DECISIONS DE LA TROISIÈME CONFÉRENCE PAN-AMÉRICAINE.

Un rapport très important a été soumis au conseil d'administration à sa dernière réunion au sujet des conventions et vœux signés à la troisième Conférence pan-américaine tenue à Rio de Janeiro. Le comité chargé de préparer ce rapport se composait de M. J. N. LÉGER, ministre d'Haïti, de Señor Don EPIFANIO PORTELA, ministre de la République Argentine, de Señor Don FELIPE PARDO, ministre du Pérou et ainsi que du Directeur et du Secrétaire du Bureau. On publie *in extenso* dans ce numéro du BULLETIN ce rapport qui fait voir où en est la situation au sujet du travail des trois conférences. Il montre aussi la voie que doivent prendre beaucoup de gouvernements pour approuver ou désapprouver les vœux et conventions afin de laisser la voie libre à la quatrième conférence. Le comité engage fortement les membres du conseil d'administration à en référer à leurs gouvernements respectifs pour que ces derniers prennent immédiatement en considération ces vœux et conventions de manière à pouvoir les ratifier ou étudier les amendements qui pourraient y être apportés afin de les soumettre à la prochaine conférence. Parmi les recommandations les plus importantes du comité on remarque celle qui autorise le Directeur à établir une section de renseignements statistiques et commerciaux, créant ainsi une sousdivision dans le travail du Bureau international. Le comité recommande aussi que les différents pays votent favorablement sans délai l'augmentation de leurs quotes-parts de 50 pour cent pour le maintien du Bureau et que les pays qui sont en retard à payer leurs quotes-parts pour le maintien du Bureau et aussi pour le nouveau bâtiment versent ces différentes sommes sans plus tarder afin que le travail du Bureau ne soit pas entravé et que la construction du nouveau bâtiment ne soit pas retardée.

RAPPORT SPÉCIAL DE M. WILLIAM R. SHEPHERD.

On publie dans ce numéro du BULLETIN le rapport intéressant et étendu préparé par le Professeur WILLIAM R. SHEPHERD sur les relations commerciales entre les États-Unis et l'Amérique du Sud. Tous ceux qui s'intéressent au développement du commerce et au resserrement de l'amitié entre les pays du Continent Américain le liront avec plaisir. On se souvient que M. SHEPHERD, professeur à l'Université de

Colombie à New-York et l'un des membres les plus distingués de la faculté, a fait le tour de l'Amérique du Sud en 1907. Dans son voyage il a visité l'Equateur, le Pérou, la Bolivie, le Chili, la République Argentine, l'Uruguay et le Brésil. Il est allé par la côte ouest, *via* Panama, et il est revenu par la côte est et Rio-de-Janeiro. Sur la demande du Directeur du Bureau il a fait des recherches spéciales pour cette institution et il fait part de ses idées dans ce rapport. M. SHEPHERD étudie de près les affaires, et il a toujours montré le plus grand intérêt à la question du rapprochement de l'Amérique du Nord et du Sud. Il est à souhaiter que l'exemple de M. SHEPHERD soit suivi par les professeurs de collèges qui occupent des postes similaires dans différentes institutions de ce pays, afin que par ce moyen on puisse éveiller aux États-Unis un plus grand intérêt pour tout ce qui regarde les Républiques Latino-Américaines.

ÉTUDE SUR L'HISTOIRE ET LA POLITIQUE DE L'AMÉRIQUE DU SUD.

M. HIRAM BINGHAM, professeur à l'Université de Yale, a lu devant l'Association des Sciences politiques américaines, réunie à Madison, Wisconsin, le 28 décembre 1907, un article très intéressant qu'il a écrit au sujet des leçons à tirer de l'histoire et de la politique sud-américaines. Cet article est si original et présente tant d'intérêt à tous les étudiants et autres personnes qui s'occupent de l'Amérique Latine qu'on le reproduit en entier dans ce numéro du BULLETIN. Le Directeur le recommande au grand nombre de professeurs et d'étudiants des institutions américaines qui s'occupent maintenant de l'étude de l'histoire et de la politique de nos Républiques sœurs. Le Bureau reçoit constamment de la part d'étudiants qui se trouvent dans les principales maisons d'éducation des États-Unis des lettres demandant des renseignements sur des sujets dont le professeur BINGHAM a parlé dans cet article. Les faits et renseignements qu'il contient étonneront la majorité de ceux qui ne se sont même pas faits une idée du grand nombre d'occasions qui se présentent aux États-Unis pour l'étude de ce sujet. À l'aide des renseignements donnés par M. BINGHAM, toute personne peut commencer immédiatement des recherches sur les faits généraux ou spéciaux de l'histoire et de la politique de l'Amérique du Sud.

ASSOCIATION FRATERNELLE CENTRO-AMÉRICAINE.

La Conférence de la Paix centro-américaine qui s'est terminée le 20 décembre 1907, après avoir siégé pendant cinq semaines environ au Bureau International des Républiques Américaines, s'est engagée dans une voie pour ainsi dire sans précédents, et qui a une valeur toute particulière au point de vue sentimental, en développant des

relations plus intimes entre l'Amérique Centrale, le Mexique et les États-Unis. On a organisé l'Association fraternelle dont le but principal est de maintenir l'esprit d'intérêt et de sympathie mutuels entre les Républiques de l'Amérique du Nord. On publie dans ce numéro du BULLETIN l'acte qui régit cette association et que doivent lire tous ceux qui suivent de près les vœux de la conférence. On peut dire sans exagérer que l'organisation de cette association fraternelle est le résultat de la bonne entente et des sentiments amicaux qui ont caractérisé toutes les réunions de la conférence et les relations entre les différents délégués. Cette organisation doit avoir une grande influence en faveur de la mise en vigueur de toutes les conventions qui ont été signées à cette importante conférence.

PREMIER CONGRÈS SCIENTIFIQUE PAN-AMÉRICAIN.

Le premier congrès scientifique pan-américain qui doit avoir lieu à Santiago, Chili, le 1er décembre 1908 éveille un si grand intérêt, non-seulement aux États-Unis mais aussi dans l'Amérique du Sud, qu'on publie dans ce numéro du BULLETIN le programme projeté. Il est à souhaiter que le Congrès des États-Unis approuve l'indemnité recommandée par M. ROOT, Secrétaire d'État, pour la participation officielle des États-Unis. Le Gouvernement chilien fait de grands préparatifs et presque toutes les Républiques américaines enverront des délégués. Outre ceux qui pourront être nommés directement par les gouvernements, les représentants de différentes universitiés et organisations scientifiques seront reçus à bras ouverts.

CONFÉRENCES SUR L'AMÉRIQUE LATINE DONNÉES PAR LE DIRECTEUR DU BUREAU.

Comme preuve de l'intérêt toujours croissant qui se manifeste dans tous les États-Unis au sujet de tout ce qui touche les pays de l'Amérique Latine, on peut dire que si le Directeur du Bureau acceptait le tiers des invitations qui sont faites par des chambres de commerce des maisons d'éducation, et d'autres organisations pour leur faire des conférences sur les relations générales et commerciales qui existent entre les États-Unis et l'Amérique Latine il lui faudrait porter la parole presque tous les jours du 1er janvier au 1er juin. Ces invitations ne viennent pas seulement d'une seule partie du pays, mais du centre et de l'extrême ouest, aussi bien que de la Nouvelle Angleterre et du midi. Mais le temps qu'il est obligé de consacrer à l'administration du Bureau ne lui permet d'accepter qu'un petit nombre de ces invitations. Pour montrer combien le Directeur est désireux de donner autant que possible les renseignements qui lui sont demandés sous cette forme, on donne une liste de quelques-uns

des endroits où il a donné des conférences: Cercle de l'Université, Washington, District de Colombie, 4 janvier; Société de l'Oregon, Washington, District de Colombie, 11 janvier; dîner donné à New-York pour célébrer l'inauguration du nouveau services de vapeurs allant dans l'Amérique du Sud, 14 janvier; Association des Banques de Washington, 16 janvier; Cercle des Hommes, Église Centrale Presbytérienne, Washington, District de Colombie, 20 janvier; Cooper Union, New-York, 27 janvier; Banquet annuel de l'Association des Commerçants et Manufacturiers de Baltimore, 3 janvier; Association Nationale des Manufacturiers, New-York, 31 janvier; Société de la Californie, Washington, District de Colombie, 2 février; Banquet de Lincoln, Grand-Rapids, Michigan, 13 février; Chambre de Commerce, Pontiac, Michigan, 13 février; Cercle Commercial, Lincoln, Nebraska, 17 février; École Mackenzie, Dobbs Ferry, New-York, célébration de l'anniversaire de la naissance de GEORGE WASHINGTON, dans la matinée du 22 février; Association Nationale des Bijoutiers, Philadelphie dans la soirée du 22 février, et Société Géographique Américaine, New-York, 25 février.

RENSEIGNEMENTS SUR LA MANIÈRE DONT ON PEUT VOYAGER DANS L'AMÉRIQUE DU SUD, ET SUR LES ROUTES À SUIVRE.

Les demandes qu'on reçoit au Bureau, non seulement des États-Unis mais aussi d'Europe, au sujet de la manière dont on peut voyager dans l'Amérique du Sud et sur les routes à suivre sont tellement nombreuses que le Directeur a prié le trésorier de l'Université de Yale, M. LEE MCCLUNG, qui vient de faire le tour de l'Amérique du Sud et Mme MARIE ROBINSON WRIGHT, écrivain distingué qui a visité le continent du sud, de rédiger de courts rapports décrivant les conditions des pays et les routes à suivre. Ces renseignements auront, au point de vue pratique, une très grande valeur pour ceux qui comptent visiter cette partie du monde. D'après la correspondance du Bureau, on peut voir qu'il y aura une augmentation considérable dans le nombre de voyageurs qui, pendant l'année se rendront dans l'Amérique du Sud. Un grand nombre de personnes qui vont ordinairement en Europe et en Asie ont l'intention de faire un voyage dans l'Amérique du Centre et du Sud pour voir ce qu'il en est. À ce sujet, il est bon de faire remarquer la grande amélioration apportée au service maritime de la côte orientale par la Compagnie Lamport & Holt en mettant sur cette ligne trois grands vapeurs d'environ 10,000 tonnes chacun, installés luxueusement et faisant le service régulier entre New-York, Rio-de-Janeiro et Buenos-Ayres. On reproduit dans ce numéro du BULLETIN une gravure d'un de ces vapeurs, ainsi que deux vues d'intérieur, pour montrer à ceux qui désirent aller dans l'Amérique du Sud qu'ils peuvent faire le voyage avec tout le confort désirable.

RÉPUBLIQUE ARGENTINE.

D'après des statistiques relatives au service des postes et télégraphes pendant l'année 1907, il ressort qu'il y avait au 31 décembre 2,138 bureaux de poste par lesquels il est passé 625,330,960 dépêches, soit une moyenne de 101 dépêches par tête. La valeur déclarée des lettres et colis chargés s'est élevée à $5,260,068.29. Pendant l'année, 10,420,012 dépêches télégraphiques ont été transmises par les lignes nationales. Les recettes des deux services accusent les résultats suivants: Postes, $7,598,180.27; dépêches télégraphiques, $2,255,374.90; total, $9,833,555.17, soit une augmentation de $746,961.76 sur l'année 1906.

Service des postes et télégraphes.

D'après "La Prensa" du 1er janvier 1908, il y avait en exploitation au 31 décembre 1907, 22,003 kilomètres de lignes de chemins de fer. Sur ce chiffre on en a ouvert 1,443.9 kilomètres à la circulation. Le capital placé dans cette industrie s'élève à $671,688,874.

Chemins de fer en exploitation.

BOLIVIE.

D'après les statistiques ayant trait au commerce de l'étain dans les marchés de l'Europe et de l'Amérique, le produit bolivien occupe le deuxième rang. Bien que la production du Détroit de Magellan dépasse de beaucoup celle de la Bolivie, ce dernier pays en a produit 15,300 tonnes, contre 16,380 en 1906. Le Département de la Colonisation et de l'Agriculture vient de faire un rapport sur la culture du caoutchouc dans la province de Larecaja. Dans ce numéro du BULLETIN on en reproduit des extraits qui pourront être d'une grande utilité à ceux qui en font le commerce.

Commerce de l'étain.

BRÉSIL.

Le Gouvernement brésilien, qui poursuit une campagne de propagande pour mieux faire connaître ses produits agricoles et miniers à l'étranger, a voté, en date du 10 décembre 1907, une loi autorisant le Ministère de l'Industrie et des Travaux publics à consacrer la somme de $4,000,000 à cet effet et aussi pour donner des primes et des indemnités. En plus des moyens désignés ci-dessus, le Gouvernement pourra en employer d'autres revêtant un caractère commercial, tels que la réduction maximum de 20 pour cent des droits d'importation sur les articles n'étant pas de production brési-lienne et venant de pays qui, par suite de conventions ou de traités, accordent pendant

Développement agricole et minier du pays.

une période de trois ans au moins une exemption ou réduction convenable dans leurs tarifs sur les produits brésiliens.

Réduction de 20 pour cent sur les marchandises provenant des États-Unis.

La réduction de 20 pour cent qui, d'après le décret du 30 juin 1906, avait été faite sur certaines marchandises provenant des États-Unis vient d'être renouvelée pour l'année 1908 par un vote du Congrès brésilien en date du 11 janvier 1908.

Exploitation de mines diamantifères.

Presque toutes les mines diamantifères dans le district Diamantina appartiennent à des capitalistes américains qui s'occupent de leur exploitation. Ils ont établi des dragues à différents endroits le long de la rivière Jequitinhonha et la révolution de l'industrie diamantifère des districts producteurs de diamants est pour ainsi dire un fait accompli. Avec la réussite de cette exploitation des millions de dollars des États-Unis seront placés dans cette industrie. En 1906 les exportations de diamants du Brésil se sont élevées à $310,000 environ, contre $150,000 en 1905, mais ces chiffres ne représentent même pas approximativement la valeur réelle des pierres exportées.

Mesures contre l'emploi de préservatifs nuisibles.

Le Gouvernement brésilien prend des mesures énergiques contre l'emploi de préservatifs, qui pourraient nuire à la santé, dans les vins, le saindoux et tous autres produits alimentaires.

Recettes douanières de Rio-de-Janeiro en 1907.

Pendant l'année 1907 les recettes douanières de Rio-de-Janeiro ont dépassé le chiffre de $40,000,000.

Construction de chemins de fer.

La construction de chemins de fer a été l'objet de beaucoup d'activité pendant l'année écoulée et 701 kilomètres de voies nouvelles ont été ouvertes au trafic.

Revision du tarif douanier.

On fait savoir du Brésil qu'en toute probabilité il y aura une revision du tarif des douanes pendant la prochaine session du Congrès national qui aura lieu en mai 1908, et que ces modifications seront mises en vigueur au mois d'août de la même année.

Commerce entre le Brésil et les États-Unis.

D'après un rapport du Bureau des Statistiques des États-Unis sur le commerce entre le Brésil et les États-Unis pour l'année 1907, les importations du Brésil provenant des États-Unis ont dépassé de $40,000,000 celles de l'année antérieure.

CHILI.

Recettes douanières pendant les onze premiers mois de 1907.

Pendant les onze premiers mois de l'année 1907, les bureaux de douane de la République du Chili ont encaissé la somme de 107,361,051.19 piastres ($35,460,000) en augmentation de 10,289,371.24 piastres sur la même période de l'année 1906.

Modifications douanières.

Le Gouvernement chilien a approuvé le projet de loi modifiant les droits de douane sur le bétail, les moutons et certains tissus. La suspension des droits sur le bétail et la réduction de 50 pour cent des droits sur les autres produits spécifiés seront mises en vigueur d'ici six mois.

Recensement Chilien.

D'après un rapport officieux fait sur le recensement chilien qui a eu lieu à la fin de l'année 1907, il y avait à cette époque 3,240,000 habitants, soit une augmentation de 50,000 environ depuis le dernier recensement qui avait eu lieu en 1903.

Construction de chemins de fer.

Le Congrès chilien a voté le 22 janvier 1908 le projet de loi autorisant une subvention pour la construction du chemin de fer longitudinal allant de la frontière péruvienne au Détroit de Magellan, sur une distance d'environ 2,600 milles. On vient d'accorder aussi une concession à une compagnie allemande pour la construction d'une ligne allant d'Arica à La Paz, ce qui prouve une fois de plus l'activité déployée par le Gouvernement dans la construction de chemins de fer.

COLOMBIE.

Exploitation de l'ivoire végétal.

Un décret présidentiel en date du 26 décembre 1907 autorise l'exploitation de l'ivoire végétal des forêts nationales par des compagnies ou particuliers sans qu'il soit nécessaire d'avoir des concessions ou permissions spéciales, à la condition toutefois de payer un droit d'exportation de $2 or par tonne d'ivoire végétal à partir du 1er avril 1908.

Marchandises importées en colis-postaux.

Le Gouvernement colombien vient de promulguer de nouveaux règlements douaniers au sujet de l'importation de marchandises en colis-postaux.

CUBA.

Rapport annuel du Gouverneur.

Dans son rapport annuel, traitant des conditions économiques de Cuba depuis la révolution de 1906 jusqu'à ce jour, M. Magoon, Gouverneur provisoire, montre l'état prospère dans lequel l'île se trouve. L'industrie sucrière, principale source de richesse du pays, est florissante et on estime que la récolte de cette année atteindra au moins le chiffre de 1,500,000 tonnes. On s'attend aussi à une hausse sensible dans le prix du sucre à cause de la diminution des quantités disponibles de ce produit dans le monde entier. La valeur approximative des marchandises importées pendant l'année fiscale 1906–7 a été de

$96,673,989, soit une diminution de $7,721,603 en la comparant à celle de l'année fiscale antérieure. Les exportations se sont élevées à la somme de $110,765,937, soit une augmentation de $5,565,622 sur l'année 1905–6. D'après ce rapport la révolution a coûté au pays la somme de $8,634,116.64.

ÉTATS-UNIS.

Commerce entre les États-Unis et l'Amérique Latine en 1907.

La valeur totale du commerce entre les États-Unis et l'Amérique Latine pendant l'année 1907 s'est élevée à $558,279,201, dont $240,553,068 pour les exportations et $317,726,133 pour les importations, contre $521,341,077 en 1906 et $493,669,785 en 1905. Il ressort donc une augmentation de $36,968,124 pour l'année dont il est question sur l'année antérieure.

Le commerce avec l'Amérique Centrale pendant l'année 1907 s'est élevé à $45,087,355, contre $38,690,379 en 1906, soit une augmentation de $6,396,976.

Le commerce entre le Mexique et les États-Unis pendant les deux périodes dont il est question s'est élevé à $124,698,413 et à $114,273,188, respectivement, en augmentation de $10,425,225 sur 1907.

Le commerce entre les États-Unis et Cuba s'est élevé à $144,973,116 en 1907, contre $131,544,878 dans l'année précédente, soit une plus-value de $13,428,238 pour l'année 1907. On remarque une légère augmentation dans le commerce avec Haïti, les chiffres pour l'année 1907 s'élevant à $4,366,273, contre $4,302,755. En ce qui concerne le commerce avec la République Dominicaine, les résultats sont meilleurs, l'augmentation de l'année 1907 sur l'année 1906 s'élevant à $214,976, les totaux pour les deux années étant de $5,860,693 et de $5,735,717.

Le commerce de toute l'Amérique du Sud avec les États-Unis s'est élevé à $233,293,351 en 1907, contre $226,764,160 en 1906, la plus-value de $6,529,191 étant due principalement à l'augmentation des exportations à destination du Brésil, ce pays ayant reçu des produits des États-Unis pour une valeur de $4,452,191 de plus qu'en 1906.

On trouvera à la page 367 la distribution des importations et exportations par pays et articles, d'après les données préparées par le Bureau des Statistiques des États-Unis.

Commerce extérieur en 1907.

Les chiffres publiés par le Bureau des Statistiques des États-Unis pour l'année 1907 font voir que le commerce extérieur s'est élevé à $3,346,684,960, dont $1,423,289,693 pour les importations et $1,923,395,267 pour les exportations. Il ressort donc une augmentation de $227,939,954 sur l'année 1906, année pendant laquelle le commerce extérieur s'est élevé à $3,118,745,006, dont $1,320,501,572 pour les importations et

$1,798,243,434 pour les exportations. La balance commerciale en 1907 a donc été de $500,105,574, contre $477,741,862 pour l'année antérieure.

Sur les importations totales de l'année 1907, plus de la moitié, soit $736,959,040, étaient d'origine européenne, ce qui fait ressortir une augmentation de plus de $35,000,000 sur celles de l'année 1906. Dans l'augmentation de $26,000,000 remarquée dans cette branche du commerce avec l'Amérique du Nord, le Mexique y figure pour une somme de plus de $5,000,000 et l'Amérique du Centre pour une somme de plus de $2,000,000. Les importations provenant de l'Amérique du Sud sont restées à peu près stationnaires, les chiffres pour l'année 1907 étant de $147,680,943 et ceux de l'année 1906 de $147,941,781. Cependant les deux années font ressortir une augmentation d'à peu près $3,000,000 en les comparant à l'année 1905. Les importations venant d'Asie ont augmenté de plus de $19,000,000; celles d'Océanie de plus de $9,000,000 et celle d'Afrique de plus de $10,000,000.

C'est l'Europe qui occupe toujours le premier rang dans les exportations des États-Unis, les envois qui y ont été faits se sont élevés à $1,313,045,045 sur un total de $1,923,395,267, soit une augmentation de $67,000,000 sur l'année 1906. La plus-value dans les exportations à destination de l'Amérique du Nord a dépassé $36,000,000. Dans cette somme le Mexique y figure pour plus de $5,000,000 et l'Amérique du Centre pour plus de $4,000,000. Toute l'Amérique du Sud a pris des marchandises pour une valeur de $85,612,408, contre $78,822,379 en 1906, soit une augmentation de plus de $6,000,000.

Les envois en Asie ont augmenté de $10,000,000; en Océanie de $5,000,000, et en Afrique de $500,000.

Voici les chiffres officiels montrant la valeur des importations et des exportations pour les deux années dont il est question:

Divisions générales.	Importations.		Exportations.	
	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.
Europe	$700,067,050	$736,959,040	$1,246,573,163	$1,313,045,045
Amérique du Nord	240,709,681	267,133,933	325,886,319	362,180,385
Amérique du Sud	147,941,781	147,680,943	78,822,379	85,612,408
Asie	196,369,212	216,233,770	89,075,358	99,127,195
Océanie	22,962,203	32,566,935	39,516,547	44,549,490
Afrique	12,451,645	22,715,072	18,369,668	18,880,744

Le mouvement de l'or pour l'année accuse une importation de $143,498,066, soit une diminution de $12,181,314 sur l'année 1906 et une exportation de $55,215,681, soit une augmentation de $8,506,523 sur l'année précédente.

Les importations d'argent se sont élevées à un total de $46,013,976, contre $44,227,841 en 1906 et les exportations à $61,625,866 en 1907, contre $60,957,091 en 1906.

Pendant l'année 1907 les navires entrés dans les ports des États-Unis représentaient un chiffre de 2,905,768 tonnes et les navires sortis un chiffre de 3,070,065 tonnes. Voici le tonnage des vapeurs: Entrés, 35,513,482 tonnes, contre 32,454,853 tonnes en 1906; sortis, 35,186,499 tonnes, contre 31,749,576 dans l'année précédente.

Commerce de transit par l'Isthme de Panama en 1907.

En 1907 les marchandises provenant des États-Unis expédiées par l'Isthme de Panama et de Tehuantepec se sont élevées à $40,000,000, triplant ainsi le chiffre le plus élevé atteint précédemment. Cette augmentation extraordinaire dans les échanges commerciaux entre les ports de l'Atlantique et du Pacifique par cette étroite langue de terre est due principalement à l'inauguration au commencement de l'année 1907 du chemin de fer de Tehuantepec, qui réunit les eaux des deux océans. Les expéditions de sucre de Hawaï *via* Tehuantepec aux ports de l'est des États-Unis se sont élevées pendant l'année 1907à $15,500,000.

Tonte de la laine en 1907.

Le total de la tonte de la laine aux États-Unis en 1907 a été de 298,294,750 livres, représentant une valeur de $78,263,165, contre 298,915,130 livres, représentant une valeur de $79,721,383 en 1906.

Loi sur la Nationallté.

Le 13 janvier 1908 le Sénat des États-Unis a ratifié la convention signée à Rio-de-Janeiro le 13 août 1908 par les délégués des Gouvernements représentés à la Troisième Conférence Internationale des États Américains, établissant la condition des citoyens naturalisés qui se rétablissent dans leur pays natal.

MEXIQUE.

Commerce extérieur, quatre premiers mois de 1907.

D'après des statistiques officielles le commerce extérieur du Mexique pendant les quatre premiers mois de l'année fiscale 1907–8 s'est élevé au chiffre de 169,171,457.66 piastres ($84,570,728.96), ce qui fait ressortir une augmentation de 28,027,765.82 piastres ($14,013,882.85) sur le commerce extérieur de la même période de l'année antérieure.

Travaux publics.

Un décret du Pouvoir Exécutif en date du 17 décembre 1907 autorise le Gouvernement à consacrer la somme de 10,690,000 piastres ($3,345,000) aux entreprises suivantes: Travaux aux ports de Salina Cruz et de Coatzacoalcos; construction d'un asile et d'un collège et installation d'un système de conduits pour amener l'eau potable dans la ville de Mexico.

Expédition de chanvre.

Les expéditions de chanvre de sisal de Progreso et de Campêche pendant l'année 1907 se sont élevées à 652,188 balles dans l'année antérieure. Sur cette quantité les États-Unis en ont reçu 590,923 balles.

Recettes douanières, premier semestre de 1907-8.

Les recettes douanières du Mexique pendant le premier semestre de l'année fiscale 1907–8 (juillet–décembre) se sont élevées à 29,491,285.98 piastres ($14,745,000), contre 25,801,349.09 piastres ($12,905,000) en 1906–7.

NICARAGUA.

Nouvelle loi agricole.

Une nouvelle loi agricole a été promulguée le 22 novembre 1907 par le Gouvernement du Nicaragua dans le but de développer l'agriculture et l'élevage, ressources principales du pays. Cette loi comporte l'organisation d'un Conseil agricole supérieur, présidé par le Ministre de Fomento et de comices d'agriculture et d'élevage sous la direction du Conseil supérieur.

Concession accordée pour l'exploitation du caoutchouc.

Le Gouvernement du Nicaragua vient d'accorder aux Généraux Valle et Ascencion le droit exclusif pour l'exploitation et l'exportation du caoutchouc du domaine public dans les districts de San José del Norte et de Siquia pendant dix ans à dater du 1er juin 1908, moyennant un loyer annuel de $3,000 en or. Cette compagnie aura son siège social à Managua et disposera d'un capital de $300,000 or divisé en 3,000 actions de $100 chacune.

PANAMA.

Importations provenant des États-Unis.

La valeur des marchandises venant des ports des États-Unis et expédiées *via* Panama dans d'autres parties des États-Unis ou dans des pays étrangers, s'est élevée, pendant l'année 1907, à la somme de douze à quinze millions de dollars. Sur cette somme des marchandises pour une valeur de $4,000,000 ont été expédiées de New-York aux ports situés sur la côte ouest des États-Unis; les marchandises expédiées de New-York aux pays de l'Amérique de Centre et du Sud situés sur la côte du Pacifique, accusent une valeur de $7,000,000 et celles qui ont été expédiées de San-Francisco aux ports de l'est des États-Unis, s'élèvent à la somme de deux à trois millions de dollars. Ces expéditions se composent de toutes sortes de marchandises mais surtout de viandes, de farines, de tissus de coton, d'huile minérale, de machineries pour les mines, d'articles en fer et en acier et d'objets divers.

PARAGUAY.

Le mouvement du trafic du chemin de fer du Paraguay, le Paraguay Central, le seul qui existe dans le pays, augmente constamment. En 1905–6 cette ligne a transporté 102,422 tonnes de marchandises, contre 69,869 tonnes en 1904–5. En 1905–6 le nombre des voyageurs s'est élevé à 971,521, contre 689,890 en 1904–5.

Trafic du Paraguay Central.

D'après le rapport du consul des États-Unis à Assomption, les exportations de caoutchouc ont augmenté pendant l'année 1907. Cette augmentation dans les exportations est due aux efforts faits dernièrement pour développer cette industrie dans le pays. Ceux qui s'occupent de la culture du caoutchouc sont obligés de le faire sur une petite échelle à cause du manque de capitaux, ce qui a été et ce qui est encore le principal obstacle au développement de cette industrie.

Exportations de Caoutchouc en 1907.

PÉROU.

Pendant les six premiers mois de l'année 1907, le Pérou a reçu du port de New-York des marchandises s'élevant à $2,557,880 or américain.

Importations de New-York, premier semestre de 1907.

Dans un rapport sur le développement minier du Pérou, M. Charles M. Pepper, agent spécial du Département du Commerce et du Travail des États-Unis, fait savoir qu'en 1907 la compagnie Cerro de Pasco a expédié aux États-Unis 20,152,000 livres de cuivre, principalement par voie de Panama, et on compte que la production pour l'année 1908 atteindra le chiffre de 30,000,000 de livres ou 15,000 tonnes. Jusqu'en 1905, la compagnie Cerro de Pasco avait placé $17,500,000 or dans ses mines.

Developpement minier.

Les exportations de laine et de cuirs de vicuña du Pérou pendant les cinq dernières années se sont élevées à 35,646 livres de laine, représentant une valeur de $25,527 et à 15,260 livres de cuir, représentant une valeur de $7,094. Cette laine est très recherchée en Angleterre où elle s'est vendue de $1 à $1.25 la livre ces deux dernières années. On prend des mesures pour empêcher la disparition du vicuña, un des animaux les plus utiles de la faune péruvienne.

Exportations de laine et de cuirs de vicuña.

D'après les chiffres publiés par les États-Unis, le commerce entre le Pérou et les États-Unis pendant l'année écoulée accuse un développement sensible. Les exportations du Pérou aux États-Unis ont augmenté de $4,154,790 sur l'année précédente et les importations provenant des États-Unis ont augmenté de $1,672,762 pendant la même période.

Commerce avec les États-Unis in 1907.

SALVADOR.

Recettes douanières, premier semestre de 1907.

Les recettes douanières de la République du Salvador, pour le premier semestre de l'année 1907, se sont élevées à 2,880,388.44 piastres ($1,440,194.22), soit une diminution de 354,382.25 piastres ($177,191.12) en les comparant à celles de la même période de l'année 1907.

Exportations, premier semestre de 1907.

D'après les dernières statistiques officielles du Salvador, les exportations pour le premier semestre de l'année 1907 accusent un poids total de 50,079,904 livres, évaluées à 11,285,531.03 piastres ($5,642,700). Les expéditions de café, qui est le principal article d'exportation, se sont élevées à 8,739,259.50 piastres ($4,369,600). Viennent ensuite le sucre et le baume. Les principaux pays de destination sont, par ordre d'importance, les États-Unis, la France, l'Allemagne et l'Italie.

URUGUAY.

Recettes douanières, onze premier mois de 1907.

Les recettes douanières pour les onze premiers mois finissant en novembre 1907 se sont élevées à $12,194,596, contre $11,952,463 pour la même période de l'année antérieure. D'après les prévisions pour le mois de décembre les recettes pour l'année entière s'élèveront à $13,000,000, ce qui fera une augmentation sensible sur l'année 1906.

Commerce avec les États-Unis en 1907.

Les importations provenant des États-Unis pendant l'année 1907 ont augmenté de $810,395, bien que les exportations destinées aux États-Unis aient diminué de $1,076,482.

VENEZUELA.

Établissement de lignes télégraphiques et téléphoniques.

D'après un décret en date du 20 décembre le Gouvernement aura le monopole de l'établissement de lignes télégraphiques et téléphoniques dans toute l'étendue du territoire.

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O

International Union of American Republics

Monthly Bulletin

OF THE

International Bureau

OF THE

American Republics

VOL. 26, NO. 3

MARCH, 1908

WHOLE NO. 174

WASHINGTON, D. C., U. S. A.

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

1908

JOHN BARRETT,

Director of the International Bureau of the American Republics.

FRANCISCO J. YÁNES,
Secretary.

WILLIAM C. WELLS,
Chief Clerk.

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While the utmost care is taken to insure accuracy in the publications of the International Bureau of the American Republics, no responsibility is assumed on account of errors or inaccuracies which may occur therein.

Por más que la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas pone escrupuloso cuidado para obtener el mayor grado de corrección en sus publicaciones, no asume responsabilidad alguna por los errores ó inexactitudes que pudieran deslizarse.

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Bien que le Bureau International des Républiques Américaines exerce le plus grand soin pour assurer l'exactitude de ses publications, il n'assumera aucune responsabilité des erreurs ou inexactitudes qui pourraient s'y glisser.

GENERAL CIPRIANO CASTRO, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF VENEZUELA.

Monthly Bulletin

OF THE

International Bureau of the American Republics,

International Union of American Republics.

Vol. XXVI. MARCH, 1908. No. 3.

When this issue of the Bulletin is being distributed, bids will have been received from the firms who have been invited to submit estimates for the erection of the new building of the International Bureau. Only a short time will be required to award the contract and actual work should be inaugurated not later than the middle of April. A great effort will be made to forward construction, so that the structure will be practically completed before the Secretary of State and Chairman of the Governing Board retires from office in March, 1909. In view of the special interest which Secretary Root has taken in the relations of the United States with Latin America, in the reorganization and enlargement of the Bureau, and in so presenting to Mr. Carnegie the importance of the field covered by the Bureau that he made his generous gift of $750,000 for its new home, there is a unanimous feeling in the Governing Board that every energy should be directed towards dedicating this new building during his administration. Specifications and plans as finally approved by the Secretary of State, and the Director of the Bureau, acting for the Board, show many improvements over the original drawings, and there is no question that this edifice will be one of the most beautiful in Washington. It will be both artistic and useful, suggestive of the purpose to which it is devoted and yet adapted to carrying on the practical work of the Bureau. It is hoped that photographs of the revised drawings can be reproduced in the April issue of the Bulletin. The delay in the completion of the plans by the architects has been due largely to revisions of the first drawings and a careful study of all details.

DEATH OF SEÑOR DON JOSÉ ALGARA.

By the death of His Excellency José Algara, Assistant Secretary of Foreign Relations of Mexico, which occurred in the capital on the 10th instant, the Republic of Mexico has lost one of its most faithful servants and eminent sons and the International Bureau of the American Republics a good and faithful friend.

Señor Algara filled offices of great importance and responsibility, such as professor of private international law and of comparative law in the School of Jurisprudence of Mexico. He was a member of the Board of Directors of the College of Lawyers, Acting Secretary of State, and held other administrative offices, in all of which he displayed his great ability in the performance of his duties.

THE NEW PAN-AMERICAN COMMITTEE.

The Third Pan-American Conference, held in Rio de Janeiro, wisely provided for the appointment, by the Minister of Foreign Affairs or Secretary of State, of a committee in each country represented, which should cooperate with him in securing the approval of the treaties, conventions and resolutions approved by the Conference, and also with the International Bureau of the American Republics in initiating and accomplishing such steps for the development of Pan-American comity and commerce as would benefit all the countries concerned. Secretary Root has recently invited the following representative men to serve upon this committee for the United States: Mr. Andrew Carnegie, Hon. William I. Buchanan, Chairman of the United States Delegation to the Third Pan-American Conference, United States Senator Stephen B. Elkins, of West Virginia, United States Congressman Charles B. Landis, of Indiana, United States Congressman James L. Slayden, of Texas, Gen. A. E. Bates, United States Army, retired, Prof. L. S. Rowe, of the University of Pennsylvania, and United States Delegate to the Third Pan-American Conference, Hon. Robert Bacon, Assistant Secretary of State, President Benjamin Ide Wheeler, of the University of California, President E. J. James, of the University of Illinois, Prof. Paul S. Reinsch, of the University of Wisconsin, Mr. William E. Curtis, the well-known newspaper correspondent, and Mr. John Barrett, Director of the International Bureau.

In appointing this committee the Secretary of State said that it could render very important and useful services in cooperating with the various American States in the direction of their mutual understanding and sympathetic relations.

RATIFICATION OF CENTRAL AMERICAN TREATIES.

It is gratifying to record the ratification of the treaties and conventions signed at the Central American Peace Conference, recently held in Washington, at the hands of all the Central American Governments. This attitude of the Central American Governments can not fail to awaken most favorable comment throughout the world and draw attention to their possibilities of development and progress. As has been suggested in the BULLETIN many times before, all of Central America can be classed as one of the most resourceful sections of the Western Hemisphere, awaiting only abundant capital, more railroads, better lines of water communication, and permanently stable government to realize a condition of progress and prosperity that will surprise the world.

HON. WILLIAM J. BRYAN AND LATIN AMERICA.

On February 15, Mr. JOHN BARRETT, the Director of the International Bureau, in response to a special invitation from the Commercial Club of Lincoln, Nebraska, delivered an address at its annual banquet in which he discussed the foreign trade relations of the United States, as they concern Latin America especially. In view of the fact that Hon. William J. Bryan, one of the most prominent men in public life of the United States, is a citizen of Lincoln, Mr. Barrett has exchanged letters with him on the subject of the United States and Latin America, which have more than a local interest, and hence are given below.

"INTERNATIONAL BUREAU OF AMERICAN REPUBLICS,
"*Washington, D. C., January 20, 1908.*

"Hon. WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN,
"*Care The National Press Bureau,*
"*Munsey Building, Washington, D. C.*

"MY DEAR MR. BRYAN: The Commercial Club of Lincoln, Nebraska, has invited me to deliver an address, at its first annual banquet, on the commercial relations of the United States with the Republics to the south of us. Inasmuch as you are one of the most distinguished residents of that city and State, and as your views must be valued greatly there, I would be very much pleased to learn how you look upon the movement for the development of greater commerce and comity between the United States and her sister nations, so that I may read what you have to say at this gathering of your fellow citizens.

"Incidentally I would add that, if you are in Washington for any length of time, it would give me much pleasure to introduce you to the Ambassadors and Ministers of the Latin American Republics who constitute our Governing Board and who represent the best element of Latin American statesmanship and citizenship.

"Yours, very respectfully,

"JOHN BARRETT."

"WASHINGTON, D. C., *January 28, 1908.*

"Hon. JOHN BARRETT,

"Bureau of American Republics, Washington, D. C.

"MY DEAR MR. BARRETT: Your favor is just at hand. Answering your inquiry, I beg to say that I am not only interested, but deeply interested, in the development of our trade with South America. Believing as I do, that the republican idea of government is destined to spread throughout the world, I watch with solicitude the growth of the Republics to the south of us. I have visited Mexico twice, and attended the inauguration of the first President of the Cuban Republic. My plans included a visit to South America this winter, but I have been compelled to defer it, much to my regret.

"If you will read the articles which I have written on Mexico and Cuba, you will see that the tone is distinctly friendly. I indorse President Cleveland's attitude in regard to Venezuela, and have editorially proposed the encouragement of commerce between the United States and South America by the establishment of steamship lines along both the eastern and western coasts of the two countries. Instead of subsidizing private lines, I suggested that our Government build some ships suitable for transport service in time of war, and then lease them in time of peace on the conditions that will insure the establishment of freight and passenger traffic between our country and all the countries of South America.

"I shall be glad to meet the representatives of the Southern Republics who constitute your Governing Board.

"Thanking you for bringing this matter to my attention, I am,

"Very truly, yours,

"W. J. BRYAN."

LATIN-AMERICAN TRIBUTE TO SECRETARY ROOT.

The Governing Board of the International Bureau took advantage of the absence from the last meeting of Secretary ROOT, its chairman, to pay him a very high compliment. When the business of the meeting reached the point of consideration of the new building, a motion was made, and unanimously approved, with many appropriate speeches, to the following effect:

"*Resolved*, That when the new building of the International Bureau of the American Republics is in course of construction, a suitable testimonial be erected in connection therewith, in honor of the Hon. Secretary ROOT, as an acknowledgment and a public recognition of his most important services and his persevering work on behalf of the Pan-American Union."

LECTURE ON CAMOENS BY AMBASSADOR NABUCO.

Mr. JOAQUIM NABUCO, the able and scholarly Ambassador of Brazil in the United States, has been invited by Yale University to deliver an address before the faculty and students on Camoens, the great Portuguese poet. While it is gratifying to note this growth of interest in the literary characters of the Latin world, whose names are household words in Latin America and little known in the United States, it is particularly pleasing that Ambassador NABUCO should have been selected to discuss Camoens before an audience of the kind which will gather to hear him. Mr. NABUCO ranks not only among the foremost diplomats of Pan-America, but his scholarly attainments are recognized all over the world. This address should be a paper not only filled with information, but a literary achievement in itself.

A WORD OF APPRECIATION FROM MR. BRIDGMAN.

A kind word of approval from an expert judge is much appreciated by those who are laboring sincerely to advance a good cause. It appears that in the audience which listened to the address of the Director of the Bureau on Latin America and his journey over the Andes, before the American Geographical Society at Mendelssohn Hall, New York City, February 25, was Mr. H. L. BRIDGMAN, the famous explorer and editor. In the "Brooklyn Standard Union" of Sunday, March 1, is an editorial entitled "Latin America, To-day and To-morrow," written by Mr. BRIDGMAN, which contains the following paragraph:

"The American Geographical Society did, perhaps unwittingly, a substantial public service in presenting Mr. BARRETT to a New York audience, and none who heard what he had to say doubts that it should be said in many forms and in many places; that, perhaps, the present with the prestige of the battle ships and the good will which their triumphant circling of the continent has evoked, is the psychological moment, and that if audiences are difficult and platforms few, the power of the press may well be worthily invoked to take up the question. Not the least agreeable and assuring portions of Mr. BARRETT's address were those in which he paid high tribute to Secretary

ROOT, in his opinion the ablest incumbent in our history, of his high office and of the beneficent and lasting results of his South American journey, of which Mr. BARRETT'S Cordillerean excursion was an incident."

YALE COURSES IN REGARD TO LATIN AMERICA.

In this issue, the BULLETIN gives a résumé of what Yale University is doing to promote the study of Latin America. If other universities are outlining similar courses, the BULLETIN will be glad to make mention of them, so that students of both North and South America may learn what facilities are being provided in instruction in this direction. Not only Yale, but Columbia, Cornell, the University of Wisconsin, the University of Illinois, the University of California, and the University of Washington, are preparing to provide courses of instruction for the increasing number of young men who wish to study Spanish and acquaint themselves with the history and development of our sister Republics. It is hoped that all high educational institutions in this country will follow the example of these universities and colleges named, and the Bureau will be pleased to cooperate with them in any way it can.

COSMOPOLITAN CLUBS IN COLLEGES.

There is an organization, little known throughout America, which is doing an excellent work in the collegiate institutions of the United States for the development of closer ties of friendship between students of foreign countries and those of the United States who are attending the same institutions. It is called, appropriately, the "Cosmopolitan Club," and its membership includes not only students from abroad who are attending institutions in the United States, but a certain percentage of young men from the latter country who are interested in foreign lands. Wherever it has been organized it has done successful work, but it is only in the infancy of its possibilities. Every influence which can surround young men from foreign countries coming to the United States, favorable to better acquaintance with them, can not fail to educate both foreigners and natives in regard to their respective portions of the world. Probably there is a far greater ignorance concerning Latin America among students of the United States than there is among students coming from Latin America in regard to the United States, and hence the good that will come from this Club is plainly manifest. The International Bureau wishes it great prosperity and a large membership. In this issue is a statement descriptive of its organization and purpose, sent to this Bureau by one of its officers.

THE PAN-AMERICAN SCIENTIFIC CONGRESS.

On February 17 an important but informal meeting of the governing board of the International Bureau was held to consider the programme of the Pan-American Scientific Congress which is to meet at Santiago, Chile, in December of this year. In addition to the members of the Governing Board present were Hon. ROBERT BACON, Assistant Secretary of State, who acted as chairman, and Prof. L. S. ROWE, of the University of Pennsylvania, who was appointed on the committee from the United States by the officials in Chile having charge of the Congress.

LATIN AMERICA AT PHILADELPHIA.

On March 20 an important meeting was held in Philadelphia, under the auspices of the American Academy of Political and Social Science, which was attended by a number of the Latin American Diplomatic Representatives, and presided over by the Director of the International Bureau. The principal feature of the occasion was an interesting and exhaustive address by Prof. L. S. ROWE, who is laboring so faithfully and successfully to develop closer relations, especially along intellectual and educational lines, between the United States and her sister Republics.

A NEW MAGAZINE FOR LATIN AMERICA.

The management of "The World To-Day," one of the leading magazines of this country, is to be congratulated upon its plan for publishing a Spanish edition under the title of "*El Mundo de Hoy*," which is intended to have a large circulation throughout Latin American countries. The Bureau is informed that the editors are making very careful preparations, so that this step on their part may not meet with failure, as have many similar efforts which have not been properly considered. The great trouble in the past has been either that the company publishing the magazine had insufficient experience or capital, or that it did not understand the temper of the Latin American people and just what they wanted in a publication of this kind. If the programme of "The World To-Day," as announced in their prospectus, is carried out, the promoters should be gratified by its success.

CREELMAN'S STORY OF PRESIDENT DIAZ.

Among the many articles that have been written about General DIAZ, President of Mexico, that of JAMES CREELMAN, in the March issue of "Pearson's Magazine," stands out prominently as perhaps the

best short story that has been told by competent authority regarding this great statesman. It is a word picture of Mexico's Chief Executive, which enables the reader to readily understand the man and appreciate what he has done for his country.

Mr. CREELMAN has enjoyed such a rare experience in interviewing distinguished world characters, and in portraying their qualities, so that the world may personally feel acquainted with them, that what he writes of General DIAZ has a rare value. His estimate of DIAZ' work as a nation builder and the position that he should occupy in history, together with his detailed analysis of his personality, impresses the reader as both a truthful and perfectly told story.

FAREWELL BANQUET TO SEÑOR PULIDO.

Before returning to his country Señor DON AUGUSTO F. PULIDO, for many years in the diplomatic service of Venezuela at Washington, was the object of a gratifying demonstration on the part of the members of the Metropolitan Club, of that city, whose members are prominent in the social, diplomatic, banking, and political life of the capital.

At a parting banquet given in his honor, Señor PULIDO was presented with a beautiful loving cup, appropriately inscribed and bearing facsimiles of the signatures of the eighty members of the club contributing to the manifestation of esteem.

CIRCULAR TOUR OF SOUTH AMERICA.

An evidence of the growth of interest among travelers in the journey to and around South America is a circular just issued by BUSK and JEVONS, general agents of the Lamport and Holt Steamship Line, entitled "Special Circular Tour of South America; New York to Bahia, Bahia to Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro to Santos, Santos to Montevideo, Montevideo to Buenos Aires, Buenos Aires across the Andes by Rail to Valparaiso, Valparaiso by Steamer to Panama, Across the Isthmus to Colon, then to New York, or vice versa."

It is announced that this long trip can be made for the comparatively small sum of $475, including meals and berths on steamers and first-class railway travel on shore. The BULLETIN in its last issue published photographs of one of the new steamers of this line, which provide sailings once a month to Montevideo and Buenos Aires by the way of Rio de Janeiro. They make the trip to Rio in eighteen days and to Buenos Aires in twenty-six days.

SOUTH AMERICAN COMMERCIAL ROUTES.

In a recent issue of "Dun's Review" there is published a very interesting paper on the trade routes of South America as supplied by inland waterways in connection with railway lines prepared by Prof. J. RUSSELL SMITH. In view of the many inquiries that are pouring into this Bureau in regard to this subject, extracts from his article are reproduced in this number of the BULLETIN.

ARGENTINE PROGRESS IN 1907.

Official reports arriving from the Argentine Republic covering the year 1907, indicate a continuation of the prosperous conditions throughout the country noted for 1906. The figures of foreign commerce show an increased valuation of nearly $20,000,000 and a balance of trade in favor of the Republic of more than $10,000,000. Immigration statistics report 329,122 arrivals; banking conditions show an improvement over those of June 30, 1907, the balance sheet of the Bank of the Argentine Nation indicating a particularly satisfactory status. The bank has at present 104 branch offices throughout the country, with a prospect of increasing the number in the present year. In the capital, building operations for the year cover a valuation of $79,033,833 paper (=$0.44), an increase of over $20,000,000 as compared with 1906, and customs receipts at Buenos Aires advanced $943,882 gold. Record crops of wheat and linseed are reported to offset the comparative shortness of the maize production, and adequate preparations have been made by the railroads for handling them.

BOLIVIAN TRADE AND INDUSTRIES.

Attention is called to the discrepancy noted in this issue of the BULLETIN between the Bolivian and United States figures published in regard to the trade between the two countries. Thus, on the United States export list for 1907, Bolivia figures for only $1,502,622, whereas consular reports for shipments from New York and San Francisco record a valuation of $2,852,460. The explanation is doubtless found in the fact that much of the merchandise destined ultimately for Bolivia is shipped via Chilean, Peruvian, and Brazilian ports

A valuable report issued by the Department of Colonization and Agriculture, in August, 1907, has formed the basis of much informative data concerning the Republic as translated for present publication.

TARIFF PROTECTION FOR INDUSTRIAL PROPERTIES IN BRAZIL.

In connection with the proposed revision of the customs tariff of Brazil, an official list of the manufacturing industries in operation throughout the Republic has been prepared as a basis for arranging a protective schedule of rates. The total amount of capital invested in manufacturing plants is given as $163,349,000, representing the interests of 2,397 establishments. Textile production is increasing at a rapid rate, which fact explains the decline noted in receipts from various exporting countries, and the commercial value of the new perini fiber is receiving governmental exploitation with the view of introducing a rival to cotton in Brazilian trade.

Coffee growing and exports under the new system of valorization show advancing trade values, an increase of over $100,000,000, and more than 1,000,000 bags being reported for 1907, as compared with the preceding year. Brazilian coffee is represented in United States consumption for the year by 77.34 per cent, or 727,187,465 pounds, out of a total of 940,247,312 pounds consumed.

COMMUNICATION DEVELOPMENT IN CHILE.

The important branch of public communication is receiving governmental attention in Chile as is indicated by the decree promulgated in January, 1908, providing for the construction of the Longitudinal Railway at a cost of $37,000,000, and the appropriation of $15,500,000 for Government lines during the year. On July 1, 1907, of the 927,639 kilometers of railroads projected by the national authorities, 707,233 kilometers were under survey by the Bureau of Public Works. In same ratio, the growth of the merchant marine service is being fostered, and at present, Brazil alone, among the countries of South America exceeds the tonnage reported for Chilean ships, which aggregates 156,316 tons.

IMPORTANT TREATY BETWEEN COLOMBIA AND ECUADOR.

The signing of a treaty of amity, commerce and navigation by the Governments of Colombia and Ecuador, and the exchange of ratifications thereof on October 24, 1907, mark an important era in the development of both Republics. The Colombian colony in Ecuador numbers more than 40,000, and the treaty in reference covers all questions of international law that might arise between countries so closely allied by natural ties.

COSTA RICA'S REPORT ON THE CENTRAL AMERICAN PEACE CONFERENCE.

The approval and ratification by the Costa Rican Government of the various treaties and conventions signed at the Central American Peace Conference held during the closing month of 1907, at Washington, renders of peculiar value the statement presented to the National Congress by Señor Don Luis Anderson, Secretary of Foreign Affairs of the Republic and President of the Conference. The statement is reproduced as of value and pertinence.

CUBAN REVENUES AND DEVELOPMENT.

Cuban revenues collected during 1907 amounted to $29,118,827, received mainly at the port of Havana. This statement is of interest in connection with the recently promulgated plan for the paving and sewering of the city of Havana, the cost of which is to be met by 10 per cent of the customs revenues of that port. Six years will be required to complete the work, and it is calculated that 10 per cent of the receipts during the period will aggregate $12,000,000. Various modifications of the customs tariff of the Republic became effective on February 28, 1908, covering mainly machinery and apparatus for the sugar and kindred industries.

TRADE AND INTERNAL CONDITIONS OF ECUADOR.

The value of the native products of Ecuador, such as cacao, rubber, hats, etc., increased in the world's markets, during 1907, with advantage to commercial conditions, and the advance of the Puerto Bolivar and Machala Railway into the cacao districts has rendered the transport of the article to the seaport more easy. The Guayaquil and Quito Railway, whose contract with the Government is under discussion by an arbitral board, has been made the subject of an executive decree, whereby the payment of the semiannual coupons dated January 2, July 2, 1908, and January 2, 1909, is to be met by a new bond issue, the funds for which are guaranteed by the salt revenues of the Republic. This article was shipped profitably during 1906–7 to Colombian ports.

FRENCH REPORT ON GUATEMALAN CONDITIONS.

The report of the French Chargé d'Affaires in Guatemala covering conditions in Guatemala, although having reference to no later period than 1906, contains, however, the latest details available as to the

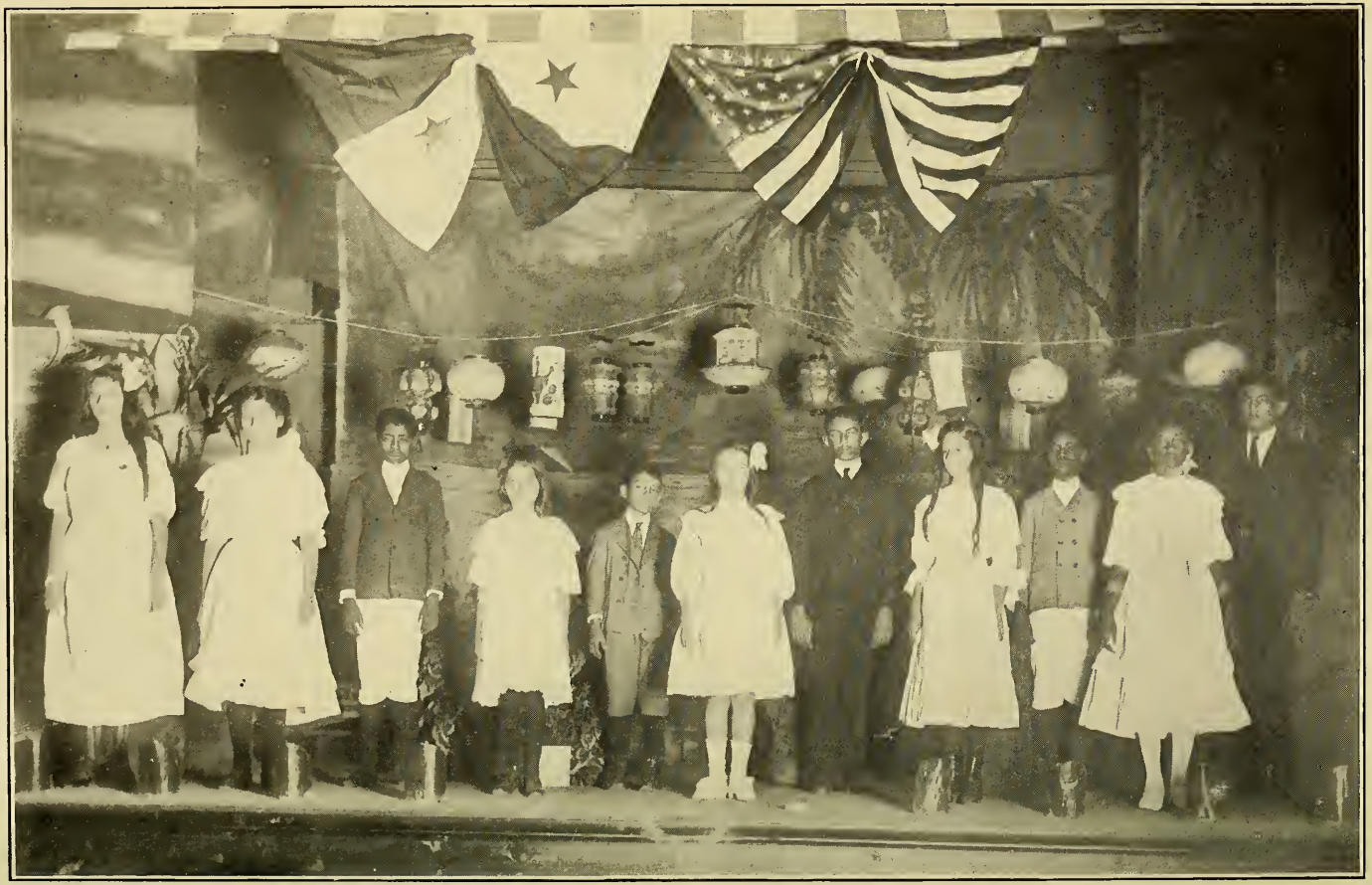
commercial relations between that Republic and the various countries of the world. It is therefore reproduced in a translated form, almost in entirety. It is shown that while the United States supplies the half of Guatemalan imports, Germany far outranks her as a receiver of products from that country. The figures differ somewhat from those published by the United States Bureau of Statistics which records an important increase in 1907 of imports from Guatemala.

MEXICAN FINANCIAL CONDITIONS.

The reported status of the 34 legally chartered banks of Mexico at the close of the year 1907 is most satisfactory, and it would seem that the financial crisis prevailing throughout the year did not affect them materially. Minister LIMANTOUR's recently issued document concerning Mexican finances has attracted widespread attention, and the closing of the railroad merger negotiations between the Government and the 4 international banks of New York City in connection with two London firms will have an important bearing upon the situation. Increased revenues from customs are reported for the latest period covered—seven months of 1907–8, while over $14,000,000 represents the increased trade values during the first five months of the present fiscal year as compared with the corresponding period of 1906–7. Consular statements on various native industries also indicate a favorable economic outlook, while figures covering trade conditions in the first half of 1907–8 indicate an export increase over the preceding year of $4,800,000, and a $7,600,000 advance in imports.

CONCESSIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS IN NICARAGUA.

An increase in the issue of exportation bonds to meet the service of the foreign debt has been decreed by the President of Nicaragua, the original sum fixed having been $75,000, which is now advanced to $400,000. The obligations of the debt were punctually met during 1907, and the general improvements inaugurated through concessions for the exploitation of natural products indicate a continuance of satisfactory conditions in the present year. A railroad contract has been entered into for the construction of a line from San Juan del Sur on the Pacific coast into the interior; the bar of the Rio Grande is to be dredged and navigation facilities improved, while concessions for mineral and gutta-percha exploitation have been made whereby the Government receipts will be greatly augmented.



SCHOOL CHILDREN OF COLON, REPUBLIC OF PANAMA. WINNERS IN A CONTEST FOR ELEVEN GOLD MEDALS, OFFERED BY THE AMERICAN CONSUL FOR BEST ESSAYS ON THE UNITED STATES, AND FOR DECLAMATIONS IN ENGLISH.

PANAMA'S FOREIGN TRADE IN 1907.

The total foreign trade of the Republic of Panama, during 1907, aggregated $19,165,648.69, according to the Treasury report of the Government. On the import list the United States figures for $5,196,964.38 out of a total of $17,204,983.77, exclusive of $7,640,533.86 credited to imports into the Canal Zone from New York without payment of duties. United States statistics record shipments to Panama valued at $18,665,323 during the year. Total exports were valued at $1,960,664.92, the recorded increase being $842,643.92. The United States is practically the sole recipient of Panama products.

EDUCATIONAL STIMULUS TO INTERNATIONAL INTERCOURSE.

That the propaganda instituted by United States Consul KELLOGG at Colon for advancing the knowledge of the inhabitants of Panama concerning the country he represents, is being attended with good results, is shown by the photograph reproduced in this issue of the BULLETIN, of the winners of the prizes offered by him in the native schools for the best essay on the United States. Consul KELLOGG reports that this competition has given a great stimulus to the study of English and of United States institutions, and regards this knowledge as the only true foundation upon which to build up social and commercial relations between the countries interested.

INCREASED CUSTOMS REVENUES AND RAILWAY DEVELOPMENT IN PERU.

Mollendo, the second port of entry for Peru, records a continually ascending scale of customs receipts for the past four years, having advanced from $675,000 in 1904, to nearly $900,000 in 1907, while Callao, for the first half of the year is credited with over $1,500,000, an estimated total for the whole of more than $3,000,000. Mr. CHARLES M. PEPPER, in a valuable report on railway construction in the Republic, states that the Peruvian treasury has husbanded its resources for railway building with great prudence, and that ample provision has been made for meeting all obligations incurred in completing the extensions both under construction and authorized by Congress.

SALVADOR'S COMMERCE AND RESOURCES.

The total value of exports from Salvador is reported as approximately $6,000,000 for the first nine months in 1907, the United States taking $1,592,473 as her year's receipts from that source. Salvadorian figures would seem to indicate a larger shipment for the

entire year to the United States as the record for nine months places exports thither at over $2,000,000.

The telegraph and telephone service of the country is credited with an increased revenue during the year of over $1,000 while an important paper furnished by the Salvadorian consul at New York, Mr. Ernest Schernikow, indicates the flourishing condition of the mineral industry and the splendid results secured in recent years.

URUGUAY'S FINANCES AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS.

A treasury surplus of over $2,000,000 is reported for the Uruguayan Republic for the fiscal year 1907, while the revenues for the year show an increase of nearly $6,000,000 over 1906. While the customs receipts for the calendar year do not indicate so great an increase as was recorded in the two preceding, the total forms a record since 1894, being in excess of $13,000,000. The debt service of the country was promptly met throughout the year.

NEW TARIFF LAW IN VENEZUELA.

Coincident with its promulgation in the "*Gaceta Oficial*" of the Republic, on January 13, 1908, a new tariff law embodying previously enacted modifications of the old rates became effective in Venezuela.

APPROVAL OF THE CONVENTIONS OF THE CENTRAL AMERICAN PEACE CONFERENCE.

The approval by the various legislative bodies of the Central American Governments of the conventions agreed upon at the Peace Conference held in Washington in December, 1907, has been reported to the Department of State of the United States under the following dates: Nicaragua, February 15, 1908; Costa Rica, February 25, 1908 Salvador, February 27, 1908; Honduras, March 3, 1908, and Guatemala, March 13, 1908.

WORK OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MANUFACTURERS.

The National Association of Manufacturers of the United States of America in making a statement to the International Bureau of American Republics as to the scope of its work, reports that of the 25,000 letters and documents translated by the association during

the course of a year, about two-fifths or 10,000 are Spanish either in original or translation.

A large proportion of the 7,000 reports distributed annually on foreign business houses relate to firms in Latin-American countries, while international commerce, in all its branches is furthered through an extensive correspondence with all quarters of the globe.

An efficient means of helping all classes of business men is the distribution of the "American Trade Index," of which an annual edition of 12,000 copies is issued, 8,000 being for distribution abroad.

ASSOCIATION OF COSMOPOLITAN CLUBS.

The University of Wisconsin as the seat of the executive chapter of the Association of Cosmopolitan Clubs, has entered into communication with over 20 large colleges in the United States for the purpose of arousing a more widely diffused interest in the organization.

The movement is designed to organize cosmopolitan clubs in all colleges of all countries where there are foreign students to form the nucleus of such a club and to affiliate with the association clubs of cosmopolitan character already formed, to cultivate the arts of peace and to establish strong international friendships.

The first club of the kind was organized at the University of Michigan in 1903 through the initiative of 18 foreign students, since which time its membership has grown to 80, and its influence has been exerted in the permanent establishment of the organization as a force in student life.

In conjunction with the 7 other universities associated in the movement, the Wisconsin University held its first annual convention in December, 1907, when a general propaganda was decided upon for the establishment of closer relations between clubs in all countries through a useful correspondence and an exchange of publications.

Communication has already been opened on the subject with the universities of Canada, with Oxford in England, Bonn and Berlin in Germany, and the University of Paris, as well as the leading colleges and universities of the United States. There are cosmopolitan clubs in existence now in Europe and in South America, the affiliation of which with the Association of Cosmopolitan Clubs would give a great impetus to the cause of international amity, the ultimate result of which would probably be the holding of continental conventions in different sections of the world.

YALE COURSES ON SOUTH AMERICA.

The University of Yale, located at New Haven, Connecticut, has furnished the International Bureau of the American Republics with an interesting statement concerning the various courses at Yale touching directly or indirectly on South American affairs.

It is regarded as highly desirable, not only from the standpoint of South American students, but from that of North Americans also, that a group of Latin Americans be added to the foreign life of the University. It has recently acquired by gift two very important libraries on South American subjects—the Wagner and the Bingham collection—while the Hispanic Museum in New York City has offered the advanced students the privileges of its library and collection. The Hispanic Club at Yale discusses South American history, trade, literature and kindred topics at its meetings, while lectures are delivered throughout the year by representative scholars on Hispanic subjects.

The most important courses offered on the subjects in reference are grouped as follows:

Spanish elementary course: Spanish prose of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries; general view of Spanish literature; beginnings of Spanish literature; old Portuguese literature; elementary course in Portuguese in the school for commercial and consular service; reading and composition in Spanish; Spanish drama in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries; elementary and advanced Spanish for scientific school students. Spanish American history: History of South America and the geography of South America—a course on the regional geography of South America.

In some of the classes the number of students is as high as 120.

In addition to the above there are certain courses which deal largely but not mainly with South American matters, covering early American history and Spanish colonies, colonization and anthropology, geology, commercial geography and Roman law.

A letter has been issued in Spanish and Portuguese by the Secretary of the University outlining the policy and purposes of the Faculty in this connection.

A CHAPTER FROM EARLIER PAN-AMERICAN HISTORY.

The International Bureau of the American Republics was created on March 29, 1890. On that date the International American Conference adopted a resolution to establish an American International Bureau for the collection of information as to the production and

commerce, the customs, laws, and regulations, of the countries forming the conference. This Bureau was to be called the Commercial Bureau of the American Republics, and it was to be the official organ of an association entitled the International Union of American Republics.

During the eighteen subsequent years there has been a steady growth in usefulness and activity. The second Pan-American conference at Mexico City, in 1901, and again the Third Conference at Rio de Janeiro, in 1906, enlarged its scope and sphere. It was enthusiasm among the Latin-Americans and encouragement from Hon. ELIHU ROOT, present Secretary of State, which enlarged its purpose beyond a commercial Bureau solely. These are well-known facts. But the earlier history of the conference, and especially the part played in it by certain Members of Congress, have been obscured. The facts are hidden in the reports of the conference and in the files of the "Congressional Record," yet as the anniversary approaches, it is only just to bring the facts to light, and to pay a worthy respect to those who have shown themselves friends of the Bureau.

Senator FRYE, of Maine, on December 13, 1887, introduced in the Senate a bill, No. 623, to promote the political progress and commercial prosperity of the American nations. This had been preceded the day before, i. e., on December 12, 1887, by a bill, No. 343, introduced by Senator SHERMAN of Ohio; but Senator FRYE's bill was the one selected to be reported back, with amendments, from the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Mr. MCCREARY, at that time Member of Congress but now Senator from Kentucky, on January 4, 1888, introduced in the House a bill, No. 1473, authorizing the President to arrange a conference for the purpose of promoting arbitration and encouraging reciprocal commercial relations between the United States and the Republics of Mexico, Central, and South America, and the Empire of Brazil. The bill was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and reported back favorably.

This occurred during the first session of the Fiftieth Congress. The feeling had been at first hostile or indifferent toward such action, but Mr. MCCREARY made a strong speech advocating the measure. He showed himself fully conversant with his subject; he quoted facts and figures to arouse his listeners and opponents to the opportunity they were allowing to slip away, and he made himself the champion of the Pan-American cause. Senator FRYE, on his side, was no less active. He had, in the previous Congress, introduced and carried through the Senate a bill authorizing the President to invite delegates from the Republics of Mexico, Central and South America, Haiti, Santo Domingo, and from the Empire of Brazil, but this bill had died as it reached the House. Mr. MCCREARY too had made an earlier effort, in 1886, to accomplish the same end, but without success.

Both were determined this time, however, not to be defeated. Their combined efforts were devoted to what had now become a bill in conference. Several unfavorable reports were made. Some clauses were thrown out, others were inserted by one side only to be rejected by the other. The conference was to be a love feast, its enemies said; enthusiasts for theories wished to unload upon it the stamp of their Utopia. At one time a question arose as to the constitutionality of the bill. This point was carefully debated. Senator FRYE would not let it proceed further until the constitutionality of the measure had been decided, because, as he said, he did not want a bill so well calculated to immensely promote the interests of the countries taking part in it, to go to the President with one unbaptized spot upon it. The Senate finally acknowledged its constitutionality. The conferees agreed to it. Then friends slowly rallied round the measure. Senator FRYE and Mr. MCCREARY persevered with their amended bill, and it finally passed both Houses on May 10, 1888.

On May 28, 1888, the act became law. Seventy-five thousand dollars was thereby appropriated for expenses. Thanks to these two champions in Congress, and to the friendship of Mr. BLAINE, later Secretary of State, no time was lost in moving according to the spirit of the bill. Invitations were issued and acceptances received. The first formal meeting of the conference was held on October 2, 1889, during the Presidency of BENJAMIN HARRISON, with Secretary of State JAMES G. BLAINE the presiding officer.

Soon after organization the members of the conference became the guests of the nation in a tour to the larger cities of the country. In New York, after enjoying the hospitality of the city, the visit was closed by a banquet given by the Spanish-American Commercial Union. Here Mr. ELIHU ROOT made a speech in reply to the toast "International Justice," in which he foreshadowed conferences yet to come. Here was first noticed a lack of any place where trustworthy information about the Americas could be obtained, and it is probable that at this time the idea awoke in some one's mind to propose later the establishment of a commercial bureau.

At this banquet one change had already been recognized. The conference had begun as a meeting of nations, but the revolution of November 15, 1889, had abolished the Empire of Brazil. The conference therefore entered its real work as one without distinction in governmental character, and was adjourned, as an International Conference of American Republics, on April 19, 1890.

The Fifty-first Congress of the United States passed an act, approved July 14, 1890, authorizing the President to carry into effect the recommendations of the conference, and it appropriated $36,000 for the organization and establishment of the Bureau. On August 26, 1890, Mr. WILLIAM E. CURTIS was appointed Director, and the first report was made under his direction.

THE UNITED STATES FLEET FROM VALPARAISO TO CALLAO.

The United States fleet under command of Rear-Admiral ROBLEY D. EVANS, after passing in front of the port of Valparaiso, Chile, where it was reviewed, February 14, by President MONTT, accompanied by his Cabinet and other distinguished citizens, on board the Chilean warship *Baquedano*, proceeded on its way to Callao.

President MONTT immediately after the review sent the following telegram to President ROOSEVELT:

"VALPARAISO, *February 14, 1908.*

"President ROOSEVELT,

"*Washington:*

"I have just witnessed the passage in line of the powerful squadron which, in command of Admiral EVANS, carries the American flag on the Pacific, and have been given the opportunity to view and admire one of the most splendid of the manifestations achieved in every field by the United States of America. The salute this day given to our flag signifies a demonstration of cordial friendship for the Chilean people, which I thankfully acknowledge and reciprocate in its name, earnestly desiring the constant prosperity of the United States and the happiness of its illustrious President.

"PEDRO MONTT."

To this most cordial message President ROOSEVELT replied:

"WASHINGTON, *February 15, 1908.*

"Excmo. PEDRO MONTT,

"*Presidente, Santiago:*

"I appreciate Your Excellency's friendly message. The lively interest of the Chilean people in the review of the American ships, and the exchange of naval courtesies are regarded by my countrymen as fresh token of cordial good will between the two countries. I offer you my friendly greetings and best wishes of the American people for the welfare of Chile.

"THEODORE ROOSEVELT."

Six days later, on the morning of February 20, the fleet came to anchor in the harbor of Callao, Peru. Two hundred and fifty miles to the southward it had been joined by the Peruvian cruiser, *Coronel Bolognesi*, bearing the first official welcome from Peru. In holiday array thousands from Callao and from Lima had assembled to catch the first glimpse of the leading ship, and when the *Bolognesi* entered the harbor heading the fleet in line the booming of salutes was not

needed to announce the arrival of the great war fleet. The enthusiastic crowds on excursion steamers, on the docks, and back on the hills overlooking the city, sent up a great shout of welcome to the ships and men from the sister Republic of the north.

Admiral EVANS with the fleet remained at Callao nine days—until February 29. During this time every attention was shown by the Peruvian Government and the people of Callao and Lima to the officers and men of the fleet.

On February 21, President PARDO received the officers of the fleet, and on the following day, the anniversary of GEORGE WASHINGTON'S birth, gave them a banquet. There were present, in addition to about 250 American officers, a number of distinguished guests, including the American Minister to Peru, Hon. LESLIE COMBS, and other members of the Diplomatic Corps.

On the 23d, President PARDO left Lima for Callao and a visit to the fleet. He was received by Admiral EVANS on board the flagship *Connecticut*, every vessel in the fleet firing a national salute in his honor.

On his return to Lima the President sent the following telegram:

"LIMA, *February 24, 1908.*

"President ROOSEVELT,

" *Washington:*

"I have just visited the flagship *Connecticut* and reviewed the whole great squadron commanded by Admiral EVANS, and I have the satisfaction of expressing to Your Excellency my admiration for the ineffable condition of all the ships and for the enthusiasm and energy of the crews. The squadron now visiting us worthily represents the power and greatness of the United States and its men are given a fraternal reception in Peru.

"JOSÉ PARDO,
"*President of Peru.*"

To this message of good will President Roosevelt replied as follows:

"WASHINGTON, *February 24, 1908.*

"His Excellency JOSÉ PARDO,

"*President of Peru, Lima:*

"I am much pleased to receive your telegram to-day and I highly appreciate your laudatory comments regarding the American Fleet. The enthusiastic welcome and friendly demonstrations at Callao have gratified and touched the American people, who have ever had for Peruvians sentiments of sincere esteem. Accept the assurance of high consideration and warm regard from me and from my people.

"THEODORE ROOSEVELT,
"*President of the United States of America.*"

After the departure of the fleet on February 29 from Callao, President ROOSEVELT, two days later, sent the following telegram:

"WASHINGTON, *March 2, 1908.*

"His Excellency JOSÉ PARDO,

"*President of Peru, Lima:*

"The hearty welcome given to the fleet, followed by the generous reception and entertainment of its officers and men on shore, and their friendly intercourse and exchange of compliments with the Peruvians, have afforded sincere gratification and pleasure to the American Government and public. In leaving the hospitable shores of Peru, the fleet will carry lasting memories of the kindnesses received. Repeating my assurances of cordial appreciation, I ask you to accept my good wishes for your personal welfare and for the prosperity of your country.

"THEODORE ROOSEVELT,

"*President of the United States.*"

The fleet entered Magdalena bay, on the coast of Mexico, early on the morning of March 12, 1908.

COMMERCIAL ROUTES OF SOUTH AMERICA.

A consideration of the trade routes of South America as supplied by inland waterways in connection with railway lines is published in the issue for February 8, 1908, of "Dun's Review," and is a valuable exposition of this important subject.

Eliminating from examination the smaller routes traversed by internal commerce, Prof. J. RUSSELL SMITH proceeds to a discussion of the three great navigable rivers which give entrance to the interior of South America from the outside world—the Orinoco, the Amazon, and the La Plata. The valleys drained by these rivers are equalled in extent and fertility in the temperate zone by the Mississippi, the Yangtse Kiang, and the Danube only. Through many short feeders, South American commerce gravitates by these main routes to the ocean, where numerous ports are required as a final outlet for interior products.

In the north, the Magdalena River resembles in its service a trunk-line railway, the river itself being the trunk, and in addition to its navigable branches it numbers several short lines of railway among its feeders. The river mouth is choked with sand, but the two ports of Cartagena and Savanilla are connected by short railways with their river ports, of which Barranquilla, on the Cartagena Railway, is the most important. The river steamers are of a type used on the Mississippi. The total length of navigation on the river is 900

miles and on the branches 215 miles. Rapids at La Dorada, 592 miles from Barranquilla, make it necessary to use a railway for 14 miles, after which boats are again used. The lower valley is a green, almost deserted waste. The chief centers of Colombian population, agriculture, and mining are on the interior plateaus drained by the Magdalena, from which short lines of railway and numerous pack trails make connection with the river steamers.

The river Atrato, draining a deep valley to the west of the Magdalena, is navigated almost to its source, and the commerce of the valley is served by one or two steamers setting out from Cartagena.

The center of the Venezuelan population is on the cool plateau around Caracas, where there are some highways and several short railways united into a system reaching the seacoast at the ports of La Guaira and Puerto Cabello. The territory served by these ports is of comparatively small area, and is limited to the highlands east of Lake Maracaibo and north of the Orinoco Valley, but it is the most valuable section commercially. The longest trade route of Venezuela is that furnished by the navigable Orinoco, although the commerce is light. Steamers can run up the river for 1,000 miles, and occasionally small ocean-going vessels ascend to Bolivar, but European and American goods are usually transferred to local vessels at Port of Spain, Trinidad.

From the Orinoco to Bahia, 13 degrees south, there is a succession of ports, each the outlet for small coast settlements. Along the whole length of this coast, approximately 2,000 miles, there is but one route to the interior—the Amazon. This river and its branches afford a magnificent system of inland waterways running through a region that is entirely covered with forest. The principal industry is rubber gathering, although some Brazil nuts and cocoa are shipped. The increase in the price and applications of rubber has brought prosperity to the Amazon Valley; its 3 ports—Para at the mouth, Manaos, 1,000 miles upstream, and Iquitos in eastern Peru—are busy trade centers. There has been an increase in the steamer service, which now traverses several of the more important branches of the great river. There are many streams of the Amazon system that could be made navigable by the use of so-called snag boats such as are constantly employed in pulling obstructions out of the Mississippi River.

Some authorities place the possible navigation of the Amazon Valley at 15,000 miles, but the part at present navigated is far below that. Steamers regularly arriving from Europe go as far up as Manaos, and the Amazon will receive the commerce of a considerable region in eastern Bolivia upon the completion of 200 miles of railway now building to connect the navigable lower Madeira with its Bolivian branches above the 18 cataracts. It is estimated that

there are 3,000 miles of navigable rivers in the Bolivian plain that at present are almost useless because of the separation from the Pacific by the Andean wall and from the Atlantic by the Madeira falls.

Next in length among the trade routes of Brazil is that from Bahia to the upper course of the San Francisco River. Bahia is the center of an important coast district and the terminus of a railway 300 miles long connecting with the steamers on the San Francisco above the falls that break its lower course as it descends from the plateau. This inland waterway is navigable for about 700 miles, but the population and commerce of the valley are inconsiderable, the greater part of the commerce of Bahia having its origin in the coast districts.

Rio de Janeiro and Santos are the chief ports of Brazil, and the ocean termini of the trade routes over which passes Brazil's leading export, coffee. The coffee district occupies a broad plateau and has a railway system which has developed into something of a network, with outlets at the two ports. These roads also carry the Brazilian manganese ore, and the traffic on the Santos line has recently made it necessary to double track the road from the port to the inland metropolis, Sao Paulo, which is a city European in population as well as in appearance. The extremities of this Brazilian railway net reach by devious routes points as far from the terminal ports as Cleveland and Columbus, Ohio, are from Philadelphia and Baltimore.

The River Plate or La Plata Valley is the next trade route of importance on the east coast. Here, one of the great rivers of the world under the names La Plata and Paraguay offers an open route far into the interior. Ocean steamers ascend in large numbers to Rosario, 230 miles above Buenos Aires. Commodious river steamers ply regularly from Buenos Aires to the ports of Paraguay. From Asuncion small steamers wind through the swampy forests to Cuyaba, 680 miles to the northward. By this circuitous route the Brazilian governors go out to their post at Cuyaba, the capital of the remote and sparsely peopled State of Matto Grosso, which is larger than Great Britain and France. Diamond mines and cattle ranches are the sources of the commerce of this district, so that the traffic on the upper Paraguay is correspondingly light. From Paraguay to the ports of the Argentine Republic and Uruguay there is a lively traffic in truck and subtropical produce sent to the colder lands downstream.

The fertile plain of the Argentine Republic to the west of the lower Parana and La Plata is low, healthful, of easy access to the sea, rich in sheep, cattle, wheat, and maize, and is served by an excellent networks of railways. The foci of these lines are the ports of Buenos Aires and Rosario. To the west of longitude 64° west, the rainfall is insufficient for agriculture and the network of railways gives place

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to four single lines going directly across the plains to the irrigated districts at the foot of the Andes. Two of these roads lead to the northwestern province of Tucuman, the sugar producer, 900 miles from the Atlantic ports.

A third railway is the so-called transcontinental line, that is to connect the capitals of Chile and the Argentine Republic. The line is finished with the exception of the tunnel necessary to the final passage of the Andes, and it will give a Pacific outlet to the important fruit and wine industries of Mendoza and San Juan, subtropical provinces at the foot of the Andes.

The wheat-growing and stock-raising industries are extending to the south and southwest, and including the lands of Patagonia. Railway extension is following these changes and the new southern port of Bahia Blanca is steadily increasing in importance. Already it is the center of several lines from the wheat district to the north and there is a prospect of the early completion of the line across the plains to the lake district in the southwest. The more abundant rainfall in the vicinity of the Andes south of 40° south produces some forests and excellent pasture, promising good traffic for railways. In this section the port of Punta Arenas, on the Straits of Magellan, has risen to some importance of late, but the trade is largely local, being confined to the products of sheep ranches and some gold mines.

The continuation of the Andes, without intermission along the western Pacific coast, forms at present an effectual barrier to extended communication on the land side, though numerous ocean ports afford outlets for shipment abroad of national products.

CENTRAL AMERICAN COFFEE.

An estimate of the output of coffee by the various Republics of Central America for the year 1907–8 fixes the production of Guatemala at 600,000 quintals, Nicaragua 137,000 quintals, Salvador 500,000 quintals, and of Costa Rica at 160,000 bags.

For Nicaragua a decrease of 34,500 quintals is thus indicated, while the product of Guatemala remains practically unchanged.

The following table gives the exportation of Central America coffee during 1906 as noted by M. Désiré Pector in his recent work on Central America:

	Bags.
Guatemala	580,000
Salvador	550,000
Costa Rica	249,000
Nicaragua	150,000

The coffee of Central America is considered one of the finest varieties in the world. In proof of this statement it is only necessary to

consider the prices obtained by them in the principal markets of the world. It is gathered generally from October to March, according to the altitude, the exportation of the product beginning in February and lasting until October. The duties on coffee imported into England are 34.80 francs ($6.96) per 100 kilos and 136 francs ($27.20) in France.

COSTA RICA.

In Costa Rica coffee is especially cultivated on the Pacific slope in the following departments: San José, Alajuela, and Cartago.

Out of a population of 183,000 inhabitants in these departments in 1892, there was a coffee plantation for every 23 inhabitants, or 182 coffee trees, producing 92 kilograms of coffee per inhabitant; in 1905, 30,200 hectares were planted in coffee.

In 1906 (year ending September 30) the exports of Costa Rican coffee reached 13,774,258 kilos, of which about one-half was shelled and the remainder in husks. The foreign ports of importation of Costa Rican coffee were, according to their importance: London, 76 per cent; Hamburg, 11 per cent; New Orleans and New York, 9 per cent; Bordeaux and Havre, 3 per cent; then Trieste, Montreal, Barcelona, Genoa, and Valparaiso.

The superior grades, *caracolillo*, are shipped to London, where they command high prices, but they would bring still higher prices in Havre or Paris, where only inferior grades are shipped and in small quantities.

The shipping ports of Costa Rican coffee are Puerto-Limon, which in 1906 shipped 13,035,780 kilos, and Puntarenas, 738,478 kilos.

Of the 3 markets in the United States, San Francisco, New Orleans, and New York, the last is the most important, while of the European markets, Hamburg, London, and Havre are the most important. London is not a great center of consumption or of supply, but nevertheless the finest grades of Central American coffees are to be found at Tower Dock, and it is here that the important European markets, even Havre, although it is generally better supplied than the others, address themselves when there is a demand for these coffees.

Although Havre is the first market of France and perhaps of all Europe for Central American coffees, Bordeaux and Marseille are also important French markets.

In virtue of a commercial treaty which the different Central American States signed with France, coffee from these countries imported directly into France enjoys the privileges granted to the most-favored nations, and in consequence only pays 136 francs per 100 kilos, minimum duties for coffee; these duties are not paid by American shippers, but only by the French buyers. But in order to obtain this privilege, the coffee must be sent with a bill of lading direct to France

and be accompanied by a certificate duly legalized, stating their Central American origin.

GUATEMALA.

The most important coffee plantations of Guatemala are found on the Pacific coast. The principal centers of cultivation are, according to their importance: Costa Cuca, 100,000 quintals; Barberena, 65,000; Pochuta, Costa Grande (1) Costa del Cucho and Tumnador, 60,000; Chuva, 50,000; Xolhuitz, 41,000; Chicacoa, 35,000; Malacatan, San Marcos, 30,000; Panan, Escuintla, Fuego, 25,000; Moran, 16,000; La Antigua, San Vicente Pacaya, 15,000; Amatitlan, Sumatan, 12,000; Zunil, 10,000. On the Atlantic slope: Coban, Alta Verapaz, 40,000; Montagua Valley, 4,000; Department of Santa Rosa, 2,000.

The export duty is 1 dollar gold or $6 paper per quintal of 46 kilos on shelled coffee and proportionately per quintal of coffee in husks. The maritime freight on coffee from the Pacific coast of Guatemala to Havre is about 75 francs per 100 kilos.

The average yearly production of Guatemala coffee is 35,000,000 kilos; 52 per cent of this quantity going to Germany (Hamburg and Bremen), 32.95 per cent to the United States (San Francisco, New York, and New Orleans), 12.760 per cent to England (Liverpool and London), 0.614 per cent to Chile (Valparaiso), 0.507 per cent to Austria (Trieste), 0.244 per cent to Italy (Genoa), 0.233 per cent to France (Havre and Bordeaux), 0.209 per cent to British Honduras (Belize). The average shipments of 800,000 quintals of coffee exported from Guatemala can be credited to the following ports: Champeric, 405,000; San José de Guatemala, 235,000; Ocos, 134,000; Livingston, 34,000, and Puerto Barrios, 2,000.

HONDURAS.

The cultivation of coffee is less developed in this country than in any of the other Central American Republics, due not to any difference in the soil, climate, and general conditions of Honduras in comparison with its sister Republics, but to the lack of means of communication with the interior, and especially to the preference given to the cultivation of bananas.

There are, however, coffee plantations in the Departments of Santa Barbara, Copan, Corés, La Paz, Choluteca and el Paraíso. Among the principal coffee centers may be mentioned Danli, near Tegucigalpa, San Pedro Sula, and San Marcos de Colon, where there is a fine plantation established by a Frenchman.

The yearly coffee crop of Honduras is about 4,000,000 kilos, of which about 2,500,000 are exported. This coffee is worth about 25 francs per 46 kilos in the country, but the rare shipments which have been sent to Havre and Bordeaux of this coffee, which is highly prized, have reached 55 and 65 francs per 50 kilos in warehouse.

The shipping ports of Honduras coffee are Puerto Cortes, on the Atlantic, for coffee destined to the United States and England; Amapala, on the Pacific, for Hamburg, Liverpool, Havre and Bordeaux and the land frontiers of Honduras for Salvador.

NICARAGUA.

Coffee grows everywhere in Nicaragua, especially on the slightly elevated places. According to an approximate estimate there are 60,000,000 trees planted in the various departments of Nicaragua.

The planting of coffee in the departments on the Atlantic slope would develop greatly if there were better and less costly means of communication. The creation of new plantations on this slope will increase wonderfully with the building of the railroad from Matagalpa to Leon, and especially with the completion of the line from San Miguelito to Monkey Point with branch line to Acoyapa.

The annual coffee production of Nicaragua is about 28,000,000 kilos, of which 7,000,000 are for home consumption, leaving about 21,000,000 kilos for exportation, distributed as follows:

Country of destination.	Kilos.
Germany (via Magellan or Panama)	8,000,000
United States	5,000,000
England	3,000,000
France	2,500,000
Italy	800,000
Belgium	500,000
Various other countries	1,200,000
Total	21,000,000

These 21,000,000 kilos of coffee are worth from 15 to 20,000,000 francs ($4,000,000).

The shipping ports for Nicaragua coffee are the two situated on the Pacific, Corinto, which takes eleven-twelfths and San José del Sur the remaining one-twelfth.

Labor is more easily obtained on the Pacific slope than on the Atlantic. The wages vary between 20 and 50 centavos per diem. The cost for transporting coffee from the interior of the country to the shipping port of Corinto is moderate for the regions situated on the line of the Pacific railroad, but it is quite high for coffee coming from the Segovias. Retail coffee was quoted on the Managua market in 1907 at $32 per quintal for first quality and $0.50 per pound. The export duty on coffee, according to the decree of February 24, 1907, is reduced to $2 (national money), which at the rate of exchange of six hundred and thirty per cent makes 150 francs per quintal of 100 pounds.

Laborers especially attached to the coffee plantations are exempt from military duty.

There are several coffee hulling establishments in Managua.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

FOREIGN COMMERCE IN 1907.

According to the figures published by the General Bureau of Statistics of the Argentine Republic, the preliminary data relating to the foreign commerce of the country during the year 1907 show that the aggregate value of imports and exports during the year amounted to $582,065,052 gold, as compared with $562,224,450 in 1906, an increase of $19,840,602. The balance of trade in favor of the Republic was $10,343,686 gold.

The total value of imports in 1907 was $285,860,683 gold, or an increase of $15,890,162 over 1906. The value of imports admitted free of duty was $102,461,572 gold, which compared with that of the previous year shows an advance of $16,904,317. Imports subject to the payment of duties were valued at $183,399,111 gold, showing a decrease of $1,014,155, when compared with the amount for 1906.

The total exportation during 1907 was valued at $296,204,369 gold, that is to say $3,950,540 more than in 1906. The value of exports subject to the payment of duties was $1,808, or an increase of $1,763 over 1906; the exports free of duty were valued at $296,204,561 gold, which in comparison with those of 1906 shows an increase of $3,948,777 gold.

The imports of gold and silver during the year in reference amounted to $23,552,726 gold, or an increase of $5,340,403 over 1906, while the exports were valued at $3,133,886 gold, $1,588,264 more than the previous year.

The imports subject to the payment of duties include articles of prime necessity, dry goods, hats, food products, beverages, jewelry, etc. The decrease in the importation of articles subject to duty is counterbalanced by the amount of imports free of duty. These latter constitute an investment of capital in railway material, agricultural machinery, and implements, etc., all being items employed in the progressive development of the country. As under this heading the Republic has in its favor an increase of $16,904,317 gold, it will be seen that this increase instead of being due to unproductive expenditures is a capital accumulated within the country for the development of her resources. It may also be stated that the railway material purchased by the companies in Europe is not paid for with Argentine money, but generally with the product of shares subscribed with European capital.

In regard to exports it should be stated that in the totals given above, the value of wool sold during the months from October to December is not included, which value amounts every year from 15,000,000 to 20,000,000 gold pesos.

IMMIGRATION IN 1907.

The Director-General of Immigration of the Argentine Republic reports regarding immigration during the year 1907 that the total number of arrivals, including passengers and immigrants from foreign countries and Montevideo, was 329,122, classified as follows:

	Arrivals.	Departures.
Passengers:		
From foreign ports	15,284	12,497
From Montevideo	55,914	55,172
Immigrants:		
From foreign ports	209,103	90,190
From Montevideo	48,821	47,873
Total	329,122	205,732

The nationality of the immigrants was as follows: Italians, 90,282; Spaniards, 82,606; Russians, 9,530; Turks, 7,436; French, 4,125; Austrians, 3,439; Germans, 2,322; English, 1,659; Hungarians, 1,220; Portuguese, 1,118; Argentinians, 1,016; Greeks, 500; Swiss, 486; Brazilians, 482; Montenegrins, 450; Bulgarians, 442; Danish, 378; North Americans, 393; Roumanians, 223; Belgians, 209; Moroccans, 180; Dutch, 178, and other nationalities in lesser numbers.

Of the 209,103 immigrants from foreign ports, 82,007 arrived grouped in 25,369 families, and singly 109,106 men and 17,990 women.

BANK STATEMENT, DECEMBER 31, 1907.

A communication received from the Department of Foreign Relations of the Argentine Republic, dated January 24, 1908, contains a statement published by the Minister of Finance, showing the situation of 17 of the Argentine banks on December 31, 1907. Their total deposits on that date amounted to $29,086,145 gold and $717,169,629 paper; discounts and loans, $37,279,547 gold and $679,357,449 paper; cash on hand, $40,026,916 gold and $220,770,433 paper.

Following is the statement referred to:

Bank.	Deposits.		Discounts and loans.		Cash on hand.	
	Gold.	Paper.	Gold.	Paper.	Gold.	Paper.
Anglo-Sud Americano	$852,534	$8,330,310	$2,167,874	$24,779,308	$251,437	$3,567,452
Aleman Transatlantico	1,410,695	28,021,210	4,801,850	27,847,239	1,676,719	7,978,984
Britanico de la A. del Sur	1,563,458	33,482,977	3,817,436	28,581,030	3,043,480	8,511,491
Credito Argentino	6,368	2,726,761	5,954	2,657,427	5,590	1,046,779
Espanol del Rio de la Plata	1,671,677	113,504,167	1,961,085	97,196,520	1,621,033	39,500,107
Frances del Rio de la Plata	5,260,308	43,471,889	6,462,862	43,725,675	3,932,838	13,480,027
Galicia y Buenos Aires	13,592	3,723,506	19,151	5,540,035	43,781	1,054,236
Germanico de la A. del Sur	1,126,536	3,053,604	1,274,741	6,490,601	1,208,755	7,513,663
Habilitador		103,104		202,325		83,752
Italia y Rio de la Plata	1,879,140	70,307,851	3,773,065	53,277,918	2,643,237	15,043,251
Londres y Brazil	617,927	8,471,952	2,749,677	7,482,121	452,063	2,439,326
Londres y Rio de la Plata	7,017,483	121,258,392	6,010,602	83,149,817	5,017,621	41,306,756
Nacion Argentina	4,939,514	192,569,578	2,050,646	214,022,278	18,618,100	55,057,452
Nuevo Italiano	504,300	22,599,049	1,226,746	18,208,607	189,073	5,622,259
Popular Argentino	212,652	7,908,489	2,663	13,540,938	153,926	3,787,726
Popular Italiano	20,473	1,721,311	46,531	1,296,815	9,635	701,833
Provincia de Buenos Aires	1,980,488	55,915,479	908,664	51,358,795	1,159,628	14,075,339
	29,086,145	717,169,629	37,279,547	679,357,449	40,026,916	220,770,433

THE BANK OF THE ARGENTINE NATION.

The following table, received from the Department of Foreign Relations of the Argentine Republic, shows the remarkable progress of the Bank of the Argentine Nation (*Banco de la Nación Argentina*), from the years 1892 to 1907. This bank is the Government institution of credit, and it was established by law of October 16, 1891, being inaugurated on December 1 of the same year. The figures contained in the table are self-explanatory and need no further comment.

Year.	Deposits.		Discounts and advances.		Cash.	
	Gold.	Paper.	Gold.	Paper.	Gold.	Paper.
1892	$241,700	$36,125,700	.....	$32,468,900	$367,700	$16,888,000
1893	1,461,800	52,249,800	.....	44,870,800	1,549,600	20,549,800
1894	325,400	56,109,700	.....	49,779,000	448,500	23,813,500
1895	550,400	55,601,200	.....	54,578,000	696,000	43,958,700
1896	675,900	55,800,900	.....	66,380,800	794,800	36,805,000
1897	886,100	56,403,800	.....	69,908,000	969,000	37,030,500
1898	1,188,300	63,852,400	.....	72,524,000	1,310,000	44,747,800
1899	1,213,900	68,994,000	$7,650	78,952,700	1,195,700	42,743,800
1900	592,700	75,426,700	821,900	83,065,900	7,974,700	44,190,900
1901	8,244,700	75,833,200	488,000	84,833,800	10,871,800	42,755,900
1902	1,240,200	77,065,800	6,600	77,647,000	8,244,900	42,790,700
1903	1,643,100	106,911,400	208,500	75,344,700	14,896,600	65,611,800
1904	1,102,300	121,320,500	394,000	95,704,600	21,788,000	47,216,000
1905	2,703,400	145,909,900	1,220,200	161,522,700	11,328,800	51,257,000
1906	1,573,100	140,764,300	1,362,600	170,573,000	9,354,000	52,439,000
1907	4,510,200	162,276,600	2,050,600	214,022,200	18,618,100	55,057,400

The net profits of the bank have also increased. In the year 1906 the net earnings amounted to $4,413,996, which, as may be seen in the above table, have increased in 1907.

The bank has at present 104 branch offices throughout the Republic, and it is probable that during 1908 4 more will be opened.

SUGAR PRODUCTION OF TUCUMAN, 1907.

According to statistics published by the Sugar Association, the cane milled by the 29 mills of Tucuman Province during 1907 was 1,403,817 tons, producing 91,150½ tons of sugar. The returns for 1905 were 1,575,646 tons, yielding 113,745 tons of sugar, the yield being 7.22 per cent. In 1906, the cane treated was 1,671,338 tons, with a yield of 100,745 tons, equivalent to 6 per cent, while the percentage of yield for the 1907 crop was 6.55 per cent.

SLAUGHTERHOUSE STATISTICS, 1907.

For the year 1907 the various slaughtering and freezing establishments of the Argentine Republic report cattle slaughtered to the number of 931,048; sheep, 2,761,696; pigs, 12,261.

Imports of cattle cover 2,900 bulls, 3,950 sheep, 785 horses, and 111 donkeys. Of the cattle imported, 9 per cent were slaughtered, owing to tuberculosis, while of the 2,997,100 sheep inspected at Tablada, 45,554 were found to be suffering from tick and were condemned.

CUSTOMS REVENUE AT BUENOS AIRES, 1907.

The revenue of the Buenos Aires custom-house for 1907 amounted to $114,968,855 paper and $2,732,015 gold, an increase for the year of $934,882 as compared with 1906.

RICE CULTURE IN THE REPUBLIC.

The Agricultural Department of the Argentine Republic, in considering the possibility of the profitable culture of rice, from a commercial standpoint within the limits of the Republic, fixes the total native production for 1907 at 13,000,000 kilos, and the total area under cultivation at 4,352 hectares.

Rice is cultivated in the provinces of Tucuman, 2,900 hectares; Salta, 440 hectares; Jujuy, 357 hectares; San Juan, 275 hectares; Sontiago del Estero, 10 hectares, and Misiones, 370 hectares. The average production is about 3,000 kilos to the hectare, at a cost of $150 (national currency) per hectare. As the average price of rice in the husk is between $9 and $10 per 100 kilos, a good profit is thus shown for the producer. It is stated that in Salta and Jujuy a higher average yield is obtained than in Tucuman, and that in Jujuy the cost of production does not exceed $135 per hectare, as labor is cheaper and water free of cost. On account of indifferent selection of seed, however, the native rice is said to be of an inferior grade to the imported varieties.

Statistics of rice imports show that in 1903 the quantities imported were 1,681 tons in the husk and 26,035 tons, clean; in 1904, 3,912 tons in husk and 24,346, clean; in 1905, 2,159 tons in husk, and 21,698 clean, while in 1906, imports advanced to 10,791 tons and 23,518 tons, for the 2 varieties, respectively.

Figures for the first nine months of 1907 fix the imports in husk at 12,716 tons, valued at $254,320, and 15,415 tons of clean rice, worth $1,233,145.

Rice in husk comes mainly from the British possessions—10,197 tons being received from this source in 1906—while clean rice comes principally from Italy, which furnished 19,600 tons in 1906.

The department considers that rice might be cultivated with advantage in the province of Cordoba, and that the islands forming the delta of the Parana are especially adapted for the purpose.

The import duty, as at present established, is 25 per cent on a tariff value of $20 gold per ton for rice in the husk and $80 gold per ton for clean rice.

DISCUSSION OF THE SALE OF THE ANDINE RAILWAY POSTPONED.

The committee on public works of the Chamber of Deputies of the Argentine Congress has resolved to postpone until the next session the discussion of the bill authorizing the sale of the Andine Railway

for $27,828,000, the terms of which were specified in contract submitted by the President of the Republic on December 13, 1907, and signed *ad referendum* between the Minister of Public Works and the representatives of the Buenos Aires and Rosario and the Central Argentine Railways.

CROP MOVEMENT IN 1907.

In connection with the large wheat and linseed crops reported for the Argentine Republic during the current year, it is further stated that adequate preparations have been made by the railways for the handling of these products with expedition and economy.

The following table shows the quantities of wheat, linseed and maize carried by the principal Argentine companies during 1907, and the proportions of such traffic to the total freight handled by the various lines:

Roads.	Wheat.		Linseed.		Maize.	
	Tons.	Per cent of total.	Tons.	Per cent of total.	Tons.	Per cent of total.
Buenos Aires and Pacific	640,000	32.5	79,000	4.0	199,000	10.1
Buenos Aires and Rosario	1,070,000	14.5	308,000	4.2	1,772,000	24.1
Buenos Aires Great Southern	1,779,000	36.4	59,000	1.2	497,000	10.1
Buenos Aires Western	926,000	39.2	.....	.....	579,000	24.5
Cordoba and Rosario	62,000	10.1	19,000	3.1	38,000	6.2
Cordoba Central	22,000	4.1	1,000	.....	6,000	1.1
Cordoba Central (N. Sec.)	.....	.....	.....	.....	17,000	2.5
Entre Rios	121,000	26.7	76,000	16.3	8,000	1.8

REAL ESTATE AND LICENSE TAXES.

In 1907 the tax collected on real estate in the Argentine capital amounted to $10,334,746.98 (national currency), or an increase of $3,774,322.84 over the amount collected in 1906. The taxes collected on real estate in 1907 in the national territories amounted to $1,121,816.94, in comparison with $472,723.75 collected in 1906.

The license tax in the capital in 1906 amounted to $3,593,114.83, while in 1907 it amounted to $3,936,496.67, thus showing a considerable increase.

In 1907 the license tax in the interior of the Republic amounted to $342,465.92, or an increase of $16,071.96 over that of 1906.

In 1907 there was a small decrease in the amount of the maritime license tax, inasmuch as in 1906 it amounted to $446,170, while in the former year it only amounted to $440,501.

In 1906 the surcharges collected amounted to $254,735.55, and in 1907 to $162,416.29.

In 1906 the total tax collected on real estate amounted to $11,653,558.29, while in 1907 it rose to $16,338,448.80, thus showing an increase of $4,684,885.51 in 1907.

In 1907 the proceeds from the sale of stamped paper amounted to $9,876,803.40 and $9,550,581.60 in 1906.

BUILDING IN BUENOS AIRES DURING THE LAST SEVEN YEARS.

According to statistics published by Messrs. Bravo, Barros & Co., of Buenos Aires, in their weekly "*Las Ventas,*" the value of the buildings constructed during the last seven years was as follows:

Year.	Pesos, paper.	Year.	Pesos, paper.
1901	22,331,824	1905	38,812,825
1902	19,403,916	1906	56,114,120
1903	21,590,925	1907	79,033,833
1904	27,983,602		

The advance commenced in 1904 with an increase of 30 per cent over 1903; in 1905 an increase of 40 per cent over 1904 is shown; the increase in 1906 over 1905 is 48 per cent, and that of 1907 over 1906 41 per cent. From 1901 to 1907 the advance has exceeded 250 per cent.

COTTON GROWING AND MANUFACTURE.

A report made by the French consul at Buenos Aires and published in the "*Moniteur Officiel du Commerce*" for January 16, 1908, states that the finest quality of cotton produced in the Argentine Republic is grown in the provinces of La Rioja and Catamarca, while Cordoba, Tucuman, and Corrientes, as well as the territories of Chaco and Misiones, devote considerable areas to the culture. A retarding influence to the full development of the industry is felt in the high rates of railway transport. In Tucuman and Cordoba the culture is limited at present, but is capable of progress, and in Corrientes it is still in its infancy, while in Misiones the plant suffers from the ravages of ants. The greatest development is noted with regard to the Chaco region where, in spite of the depredations of a disease known locally as "*rouja,*" a fine grade of long-fibered cotton, much appreciated in the Havre and Liverpool markets is grown. Successful efforts have been directed toward the stamping out of the disease.

The Chaco district contains a large number of gins, which during 1907 treated about 800 metric tons of cotton, half being used in Buenos Aires and the remainder dispatched to the Liverpool market. The cotton seed are sold to the Colonelli factory, which is the only one equipped for the manufacture of oil. The three small cotton manufacturing companies originally established have combined as the *Sociedad Hilanderias Argentinas de Algodon,* capitalized at about $875,000. This company uses the native product, without having recourse to importations of raw material, to the extent of 400 tons, and its contracts for the present year called for an increase over the preceding one. It has an important establishment at General Vedia (Chaco),

with a dozen mills at Resistencia and a spinning mill at Buenos Aires, with a capacity of 2,000 kilos of yarn daily.

The 1907 crop is given as 7,000 metric tons, and the total area under culture at 4,644 hectares, distributed as follows:

Chaco, 3,280 hectares; Formosa, 111; Misiones, 68; Corrientes, 495; Santa Fe, 275; Catamarca, 22, and La Rioja, 215.

Cotton imports for the year are placed at about 52,682 kilograms (116,143 pounds).

COMMUNICATION WITH BOLIVIA.

The opening of the railroad line from Jujuy to La Quiaca, the terminus of the extension of the Central Northern Railway to the frontier of Bolivia, has been effected in conformity with the contract made between the Argentine Government and Luis Stremiz and Company in 1903.

From the Bolivian frontier a connecting line is to be run on account of the Argentine Republic, by virtue of a treaty with Bolivia to one of the principal cities of the latter country.

The length of line from Jujuy to La Quiaca is 284 kilometers (over 166 miles), and the cost of construction was $6,884,659. Leaving Jujuy at a point which is 1,258 meters above sea level, the road ascends the valley traversed by the Rio Grande, which is crossed several times in the first 34 kilometers. Culverts and bridges numbering 125, and varying from 2 to 210 meters, have had to be constructed within that distance, while for an extent of 10 kilometers, where the gradient is 60 per 1,000, the railway is constructed on the Abt rack system. On this section heavy adhesional locomotives will be employed capable of drawing, in addition to the engine and tender, a train weighing 150 tons at a speed of 10 kilometers an hour.

At Purnamarca station the railway is at a height of 2,208 meters above sea level and at Negra Muerta, at the head of the valley, the height is 3,343 meters. At Tres Cruces, 184 kilometers from Jujuy, the greatest elevation, 3,690 meters, is attained. Thence the line passes with a gradual descent to La Quiaca, which is 3,443 meters above the level of the sea.

The "Standard," of Buenos Aires, in commenting on the road, anticipates a considerable passenger traffic over the line on account of the picturesque nature of the region traversed.

BOLIVIA.

COMMERCE WITH THE UNITED STATES, 1907.

The Minister from Bolivia, in Washington, Señor Don Ignacio Calderón, has furnished the International Bureau of the American Republics with the information that, according to consular reports

for the year 1907, exports from New York and San Francisco to Bolivia reached a total valuation of $2,852,460.30. Similar shipments in 1906 aggregated $1,136,603.91, a gain being thus shown of $1,715,856.39.

Recorded figures for export values from the ports mentioned with Bolivian destination in 1905 are $1,720,000, so that an increase of nearly 100 per cent is noted in two years.

United States figures for exports to Bolivia in 1907 show only $1,502,622, as much merchandise ultimately destined for that country is entered through Chilean and other ports. Imports are not recorded.

CONDITIONS OF FOREIGN COMMERCE.

Villa Bella, Puerto Suarez, and Huaqui, are the principal ports of the Republic. Other important ports are Puerto Sucre, Villa Rica, Puerto Perez, Sotalaya, Bahia or Cobija, Madre de Dios, Puerto Ballivian, and Rurrenbaque.

In 1905 and 1906, the exports and imports of Bolivia were valued as follows:

	Exports.	Imports.
	Bolivianos.[a]	*Bolivianos.*
1905	29.533,046	20.298,771
1906	56.654,515	34.232,578

[a] Boliviano = $0.429 United States currency.

The principal custom-houses of the Republic at the present time are Huaqui, Oruro, Uyuni, Tupiza, Tarija, Puerto Suarez, Villa Bella, Abuna, Madre de Dios, and Bahia. The following are second and third class custom-houses: Corocoro, Sotalaya, Pelechuco, Itenes, San Matias, Yacuiba, Salitre, Rio Grande, Salinas de Garcilindoza, Huaycho, San Ignacio, and La Gaiba.

All merchandise, in order to be lawfully imported into the Republic, must pass through one of the established custom-houses. All merchandise known to commerce is importable into the Republic, except articles whose circulation is prohibited by the penal laws and the security and public welfare of the Republic, as well as the articles excluded in the customs rules and regulations, and articles of which the Government has a monopoly. Steel arms and firearms, as well as powder, except such as are imported for use in mines, and, in general, all kinds of war supplies, can only be imported with the express consent of the Government.

Foreign merchandise imported for consumption within the Republic, pays, in the proper custom-house, the duties specified in the customs tariff; merchandise free of duty is such as is so mentioned in the

customs tariff, or that which is declared free of duty by the legislative power.

Fifty per cent of the customs duties are payable in gold at the rate of 12.5 *bolivianos* per pound sterling; when paid in silver there shall be a surcharge of 5 per cent on all or a part of the 50 per cent. Amounts of less than 12.5 *bolivianos* may be paid in silver without any surcharge.

The sum of 0.30 of a *boliviano* shall be collected in the warehouses on each 100 kilos of merchandise or fraction thereof.

After merchandise passes through the custom-house of the Republic, it is exempt from all further taxation, unless State laws and municipal rules and regulations otherwise direct.

All the products of the country, whether in a natural or manufactured state, with the exception of live vicuñas, chinchillas, and alpacas, and Bolivian antiquities, may be exported.

In general, all natural and manufactured products of Bolivia, with the exception of the following, are free from export duties:

	Bolivianos.
Bismuth in ingots, per 46 kilos	10.0
Bismuth in bars, per 46 kilos	8.0
Copper in bars, per 46 kilos	1.0
Gold in ingots or powder	.2
Silver ores, per fine mark	.08
Sealed gold coin ..... per cent..	3
Rubber ..... do.....	8 to 15

Tin is subject to a sliding scale depending on the quotations of the European markets. For instance, if the ton of strait bar is quoted at less than £100, the export tax per quintal is 0.90 *bolivianos;* if at more than £200, 3.30 *bolivianos* per quintal.

REDUCTION OF INTEREST ON MINING LICENSES.

On December 16, 1907, President Ismael Montes promulgated the following decree:

"Sole article. The interest on unpaid mining licenses is hereby reduced to 9 per cent per annum, the law of October 26, 1890, and article 69 of the Mining Rules and Regulations of October 28, 1882, being modified accordingly."

PRODUCTION AND INDUSTRY.

It is rather difficult to estimate the agricultural production of the Bolivian Republic. Everything of this kind produced is used for home consumption, except india rubber, which is exported to Europe, and small quantities of cocoa, coffee, Peruvian bark, etc., sent to Chile and the Argentine Republic.

The greatest rubber-producing regions are located in the national territory of Colonias, the departments of Beni and Santa Cruz, and

portions of La Paz and Cochabamba. Both cocoa and coffee are grown in Yungas of La Paz and Cochabamba. Beni and Santa Cruz also cultivate coffee and other valuable vegetable products.

India rubber, the exploitation of which at present constitutes one of the most important and sure sources of national wealth, is regarded as the most valuable vegetable product of the country, both in Bolivia and abroad.

There are 635,000 square kilometers of Government lands in the Republic.

Government lands are acquired by purchase, except in cases of acquisition, in accordance with the special laws, and the unit of measure for all acquisitions is 10,000 square meters, or 2.471 acres.

In each departmental and provincial capital there is a board entitled *Junta de Fomento Agrícola y Ganadero*, the object of which is to promote the agricultural and cattle industries of the country, and the powers of which are subject to special rules and regulations.

There are many rich mines in Bolivia in which are found almost all the minerals known in the world. The mountains of Bolivia contain great veins of precious metals, constituting the most varied combinations, and these metals are exploited on a large scale. Owing, however, to the great scarcity of labor, as well as of capital and railroads, a complete exploitation can not be made. Notwithstanding these difficulties, it may be said that the mining industry in Bolivia is carried on in accordance with the latest improvements, and that the best miners in South America are to be found in the Republic. A writer has said that from a mining point of view Bolivia compares favorably with any other country. The copper deposits of Corocoro and the tin and bismuth mines are considered among the richest in the world.

The following are the minerals at present exploited on a large scale:

There are three auriferous regions in Bolivia containing gold in abundance. The first one extends from the eastern border of the Republic, in the basin of the Inambary, to the eastern frontier in Upper Paraguay. This region comprises the whole mountainous zone of the provinces of Caupolican, Munecas, Larecaja, Cercodo, Yungas, Inquisivi, and Loayza of the Department of La Paz, continuing through the Department of Cochabamba, and extending through Santa Cruz. Also the famous placers of the river San Juan del Oro, Suches, Tipuani, Cajones, and Chuquiaguillo; the mines of Araca, Yani, Cavari, Ayopaya, Arque, San Simon, San Javier, Sorotoco de Chiquitos, and others belonging to this group.

The second region begins in Lipez, continues through the southern part of the provinces of Chayauta, Sur Chichas, Department of Potosi,

Mendez, Department of Tarija, Cinti y Acero in Chuquisaca, to the plains of Santa Cruz. In this region are located the veins and placers of Amayapampa, Suipacha, Esmoraca, Chuquichuqi, San Juan River, and the tributaries of the Guapay.

The third region, which is perhaps the richest of all, is not at present being exploited, but it extends to the northwest of the Republic to Corabaya, in Peru, and the sources of the rivers Madre de Dios, Acre, and Purus.

From 1540 to 1759, a period of two hundred and twenty years, the Bolivian gold mines produced £420,000,000. From the latter date to the early part of the nineteenth century the mines and placers of the provinces of Larecaja and Caupoliacan produced $14,000,000 gold, and from 1818 to 1868 they produced 150,776 ounces of gold. It is estimated that the output of the other mines and placers of the Republic, from the middle of the eighteenth until the latter part of the nineteenth century, amounted to £25,000,000.

Judging by the data obtained on the matter, the gold production in Bolivia in one year may be estimated at approximately 550 kilograms of gold, the official value of which is 275,000 *bolivianos*.

Silver abounds in nearly all of the territory of the Republic, and has made famous the Potosi hill, which from 1556 to 1651 produced 3,240,000 pesos to the Spanish Crown, derived exclusively from a tax amounting to one-fifth of the value of the product. It is well known that Bolivia has for a long time occupied the third place among silver-producing countries.

The western region is the richest, and the auriferous zone of the high plateaus, which constitute the immense plains to the north, the south and the east, the silver ores occupy the upper part and crown the hills of the Andine mountains from west to east.

There are more than 10,000 abandoned silver mines throughout the Republic, not including a great many which are at present being exploited. The cessation in exploiting the abandoned mines has not been caused by the exhaustion of the metal or any deficiency therein, but owing to the lack of capital or suitable means of the extraction of the water, and other difficulties.

The Department of Potosi is the richest and most abundant in silver mines, and there are located therein the famous mining districts of Huanchaca, Aullagas, Colquechaca, Ocuri, Porco, Guadalupe, Portugalete, Carguaicollo, Chorolque, Tomave and Lipez, exclusive of other important concerns who are working mines in the Potosi hill, Andacaba, Chochacomani, Turqui, Uncia, and other places.

The most important mines in the Department of Oruro are the Oruro, San Jose, Antequera, etc.; in Chuquisaca the San Lucas, Huata, and Pojo mines; in Cochabamba, the Arque and Choque-

camata, and the Colquiri in the Department of La Paz. The richest ores yield 8,000 marks per 2,300 kilos.

The wealth of the Bolivian tin mines is wonderful, and its development is handicapped by the lack of capital, railroads, and public roads which would facilitate the transportation of the product to the seaport. This mineral is frequently found in the eastern strip of land of the high plateau from the neighborhood of Lake Titicaca to near the southern frontier of the Republic. The best known tin deposit in the north is Moho in the Peruvian province of Huancane, on the northwest boundary of Lake Titicaca. Other rich tin mines are found at Milluni, in Huayna Potosi, Quime, Colquiri, and the whole province of Inquisivi, Oruro, and adjoining country, Leon hill and Avicaya, and in the province of Poopo at Chayanta, Potosi, Porco Tazna, Chorolque, Chocaya, and Catagaita.

There are four tin producing districts, namely. La Paz in the north; Oruro in the center; Chorolque in the south, and Potosi in the east.

Bolivia occupies the first place among bismuth producing countries. Bismuth and tin are closely related, are often found combined, and abound in the same zones in the eastern part of the Andes to Apolobamba, and at Palca, Chacaltaya, Huayna Potosi, Sorata, etc. Bismuth is also found in the cordilleras of the Chorolque and Tazna.

It can be said without exaggeration that of the mineral wealth of Bolivia, copper represents one of the most important products, due to its abundance and grade. The cupriferous formations are found mainly in the eastern chain of the Andes from Lipez, where white copper is found, Porco, Chayanta in the Department of Potosi; in Arque and Colcha in the Department of Cochabamba, and through Turco, Poopo, and Oruro, thence to the northwest in the direction of Corocoro, passing through Chacarilla. From Corocoro it extends through the province of Omasuyos, Munecas, and Caupolican, to the boundary line of Peru through Apolobamba. The Corocoro copper district is the richest and most actively exploited of the copper zones of Bolivia.

These 5 minerals—gold, silver, tin, bismuth, and copper—constitute the chief mineral wealth of Bolivia, though other mineral substances, such as wolfram, antimony, lead, borate of lime, etc., abound.

The mining law of Bolivia protects foreign capitalists, who enjoy all kinds of privileges in the exploitation of mines. All foreigners may acquire mining claims on the same conditions as Bolivian citizens. All machinery imported for use in the mining and agricultural industries is free of duty, and all ores are exported free of export duties, except copper, tin, silver, gold, and bismuth, which are subject to a small export tax.

All persons, native or foreign, who enjoy civil rights, may secure one or more mining claims by a single concession, in the case of known

ores, and 30 mining claims in the case of minerals recently discovered. A mining claim comprises 100 square meters.

In order to obtain the grant of one or more mining claims, it is necessary to file an application before the proper prefect or delegate, made on stamped paper, of 20 *bolivianos*, and in addition paying for each mining claim 2 *bolivianos* semiannually, if the mine is on a vein, and 1 *boliviano*, if the mine is a placer or deposit.

The application shall state: (1) The name, residence, and occupation of the applicant; (2) the name by which the concession shall be called; (3) the location of the mining claim, specifying the direction and distance with respect to some fixed or given point; (4) the number of mining claims; (5) the mining district of the claims, stating whether it is already known as such or whether it is a recently discovered zone; (6) the names of the adjoining mine owners, should there be any, and (7) the name of the owner of the land, if the land belongs to a private person.

Mines can be freely exploited, provided the owners or managers comply with the provisions of the mining law, special care being taken not to endanger the life or health of the laborers, nor to disturb public health and order.

Miners' wages are approximately as follows: Crowbar or pick men, 3 to 4 *bolivianos* daily; windlass men, 2 to 3 *bolivianos* daily, while less skilled laborers get from 1 to 2 *bolivianos* daily.

COMMUNICATION.

In August, 1907, the extent of Bolivian railways in exploitation, was 674 kilometers, distributed as follows:

	Kilometers.
Ollagüe to Oruro	484
Oyuni to Huanchaca	25
Huaqui to La Paz	96
Viacha to Ayoayo	59
Branches of these lines	10
Total	674

The wagon roads of the Republic have a length of 3,716 kilometers.

Navigable rivers within Bolivian territory have a length of 18,820 kilometers, or 10,156 maritime miles.

OPERATIONS OF THE MINT, FIRST HALF OF 1907.

According to a table published in the September, 1907, number of the "*Revista del Ministerio de Colonización y Agricultura*," of the Republic of Bolivia, the operations of the national mint during the first half of the year 1907 were as follows: Redemption of coins, 341 kilograms and 500 grams, valued at 15,657.53 *bolivianos* ($7,848.76); expenditures on materials, 2,043.14 *bolivianos* ($1,021.57); coinage, 1,124 kilograms and 125 grams, or 48,943.05 *bolivianos* ($24,471.54).

STATISTICAL DATA.

Taking as a basis the census of 1900, the population of the Republic on September 1, 1906, was 1,953,916 inhabitants.

The revenues of the Republic are divided into national, departmental, and municipal. The national revenues consist of receipts from custom-houses, export duties, taxes on stock and mining companies, consular invoices, mortgages, trade-marks, mining concessions, stamped and sealed paper, the coinage of money, State telegraphs, sale of Government lands, post-office boxes and postage stamps, university degrees, etc.

It is estimated that the departmental and municipal receipts for 1907 amounted to 13,583,333 *bolivianos* ($6,791,666), and the expenditures to 14,614,288 *bolivianos* ($7,307,144).

During the last few years the national revenues have been increased, due to the payment of the Brazilian and Chilean indemnizations, by, approximately, $19,350,000, or 28,700,000 *bolivianos*, an amount that will be used exclusively in the construction of railroads.

Bolivia does not belong to the Universal Telegraph Union, and her relations with other countries are wholly determined by her reciprocal interests. Nevertheless, she has made treaties and agreements with different South American nations, and with private persons, for the purpose of facilitating and guaranteeing this service.

BRAZIL.

COFFEE EXPORTS, 1900–1907.

The following table shows the exports of Brazilian coffee during the period 1900 to 1907:

Year.	Bags.	Year.	Bags.
1900	5,849,114	1904	6,571,509
1901	9,613,080	1905	7,453,752
1902	8,714,182	1906	10,166,257
1903	7,994,190	1907	11,470,116

FOREIGN COMMERCE, ELEVEN MONTHS OF 1907.

For the eleven months January to November of the calendar year 1907, total imports into Brazil aggregated $183,000,000, as compared with $146,000,000 in 1906.

Exports for the two periods under comparison were, respectively, $252,000,000 and $238,000,000.

Coffee and rubber together figure up over $192,000,000 on the exports list, the valuations being, respectively, $131,000,000 and $61,000,000.

NATIVE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES.

The manufacturing industries of the Republic are shown in the following table giving the estimated number of industrial establishments in each State and the aggregate capital invested therein:

State.	Number of establishments.	Amount of capital invested.	State.	Number of establishments.	Amount of capital invested.
Federal district	600	$44,220,000	Alagoas	30	$2,074,000
São Paulo	184	36,910,000	Parahyba do Norte	23	1,291,000
Rio de Janeiro	188	19,620,000	Ceara	25	1,128,000
Pernambuco	100	13,420,000	Amazonas	15	762,000
Rio Grande do Sul	215	11,280,000	Sergipe	26	1,738,000
Bahia	120	9,150,000	Piauhy	7	701,000
Maranhao	25	3,660,000	Rio Grande do Norte	15	274,000
Parana	126	3,599,000	Espirito Santo	5	60,000
Para	30	2,440,000			
Minas Geraes	523	8,230,000	Total	2,397	163,349,000
Santa Catharina	140	2,592,000			

Those products given as the most important in each State were as follows:

Federal district: Textiles, cordage, furniture, white clothing, lumber and cabinet work, hats, umbrellas, shoes, soap, candles, chemical products, preserved food, beer, chocolate, biscuits, glass, paper, and leather goods.

São Paulo: Same as in the Federal district, and, in addition, sugar, lard, lime, cement, and agricultural implements.

Rio Grande do Sul: Same as in the Federal district, and, in addition, meat products, wines, iron safes, stoves and other foundry products, and agricultural implements.

Minas Gerães: Same as in the Federal district, and, in addition, dairy products, meat products, lime and cement, wax, and iron-foundry products.

Bahia: Same as in the Federal district, and, in addition, tobacco manufactures, sugar, and wax.

Alagoas: Textiles, sugar, leather, and wine.

Santa Catharina: Same as in the Federal district, and, in addition, alcoholic products, berve-matte, and tobacco.

Parana: Same as in Santa Catharina, and, in addition, matches.

Rio de Janeiro: Same as in the Federal district, and, in addition, dairy products.

Pernambuco: Textiles, sugar, leather, shoes, food products, and tobacco.

Sergipe: Same as in Pernambuco.

Para: Textiles, beer, soap, chocolate, and wax.

Parahyba: Same as in Pernambuco.

Ceara: Textiles.

Amazonas, Maranhão, Rio Grande do Norte, Piauhy, and Espirito Santo: Miscellaneous.

EXPORTS OF RUBBER, SECOND HALF OF 1907.

The exports of rubber from the ports of Para, Manaos, and Iquitos during the last half of 1907 were as follows:

	To Europe.	To New York.
	Kilos.	*Kilos.*
Fine	4,735,763	3,147,713
Medium	595,915	627,845
Coarse	1,387,714	1,776,720
Caoutchouc	1,499,813	186,171
Total	8,216,205	5,732,449
General total		13,948,654

IMMIGRATION STATISTICS.

The number of immigrants at the port of Rio de Janeiro during the year 1907 was 31,173, or 4,026 more than last year. During the month of December alone there entered 4,236, or 1,514 more than in the same month of 1906. The number of voluntary immigrants arriving in Brazil in 1907 was 9,339 greater than the average of the last seventeen years.

CUSTOMS RECEIPTS AT PARA, 1907.

The inspector of customs at Para reports that the total receipts at that Brazilian port of entry during 1907 aggregated 9.373:600$794, gold, and 22.575:510$099, paper.

TRADE OF SANTOS IN 1907.

The total value of foreign commerce through the port of Santos during 1907 was represented by exports valued at $107,000,000 and imports worth $42,000,000 as compared with $101,000,000, and $32,000,000 for the two branches of trade in the preceding year.

The leading items of import were iron and steel manufactures, foodstuffs and textiles, while the bulk of exports was composed of coffee, bran, hides, and rubber, occupying but a limited proportion of the total export valuation.

ADHERENCE TO THE SANITARY CONVENTION.

The Bureau of the American Republics is informed through the Department of State of the United States that on January 9, 1908, the President of Brazil issued the following decree whereby the ratification by Brazil of the International Sanitary Convention of Washington was officially promulgated.

"The President of the Republic of the United States of Brazil:

"I make known that the National Congress has decreed and given sanction to the following resolution:

"ART. 1. The resolution signed at Rio de Janeiro by the Third International American Conference on August 23, 1906, adhering to the International Sanitary Convention of Washington and putting its precepts into practice is approved.

"ART. 2. The provisions to the contrary are revoked.

BRAZILIAN HEMP.

The Agronomic Institute of the State of São Paulo calls attention to a new fiber extracted from a plant called *hebisco*, that has been cultivated by Dr. VICTORIO A. DE PERINI at the Rodeio Station, and which, in the opinion of the institute, grows spontaneously in the northern States of the Republic drained by the San Francisco River, where it is known as "*Papoula do San Francisco*" and "*Papoula do Río Abaixo.*" The report made by the director of the Agronomic Institute of Campinas contains the following data:

Doctor PERINI sent to the aforesaid institute for analysis a sample of the fiber weighing about 20 grams and the corresponding waste, weighing about 4½ grams. Doctor PERINI says this sample is of medium quality, but states that the process which he adopted did not produce fibers much stronger than those obtained by the institute in the experiment made for the purpose of extracting the fiber by the use of stagnant and running water.

The Government has granted a concession to a private company for the exploitation of said plant, and the governor of the State of Rio de Janeiro has given an annual subsidy of 30 *contos of reis* for four years for the establishment of a factory in that State for the manufacture of goods, paper, and cordage out of said fiber.

PORT WORKS AT RECIFE.

The Brazilian Ministry of Industry, Railways and Public Works has issued a call for tenders for the construction of the Recife port works, State of Pernambuco, in accordance with the plan approved by the decree of November 4, 1907. Proposals for the work will be received up to midday on March 26, 1908.

The specifications include the construction of a breakwater 1,147 meters long, with a depth of 9 meters below water at low tide; a mole, with a total length of 798 meters; quays for the docking, loading, and discharging of ships; raising and levelling an old wall built on the reefs; a general dredging of the harbor to a depth of 9 meters below low tide at the port entrance and 8 meters to the south of the quays; filling up the space between the new quays and the present shore line; removing the rocks which obstruct the entrance to the harbor; constructing 7 warehouses, and the laying of a railway line of 1 meter gauge on the quays, lines for electric cranes and the paving and draining of the streets.

The stipulated price for such works is not to exceed 49.411:671$ ($16,305,850) and six years are allowed for the completion thereof, including one year from the date of the contract for the installation of the requisite machinery for commencing active work.

The full text of the specifications and conditions is published in the "Brazilian Review" for January 14, 1908.

PLATINUM IN THE REPUBLIC.

The Ouro Preto School of Mines in its bulletin for 1906, states that the existence of platinum in Brazil has been known for over one hundred years and was for a long time confounded with palladic gold. It has been found as rare disseminations in the gold obtained from the "*jacutinga*" of Gongo Socco in the proportion of from 0.04 to 0.12 per cent; also in the auriferous quartz formations of the crystalline schists of the region of the River Bruscus in Pernambuco; in association with diamonds derived from conglomerate quartzites on the eastern slopes of the Serra do Espinhaço, from Itambé de Matto Dentro to Itambé do Serra; and the River Abaete and its affluents of the left bank, probably having been derived from olivine rocks.

In the first, second, and fourth sections referred to the platinum is primary, but that of Serra do Espinhaço is secondary, having been deposited from a solution of decomposed pyrites. It occurs in the alluvium of rivers having their rise on the eastern slope, and is found in conjunction with gold in the Lages stream and its tributaries. The wide beds of these streams are covered by cascalho from 1 to 2 meters in thickness, composed of hard pebbles and quartz sand with slate and a little white clay, containing heavy minerals with gold and platinum, the former being identical with those found in the diamond-bearing cascalho of Diamantina. The native platinum is never rolled, but appears sometimes as mammillated grains, sometimes in globular form, but more frequently in thin foliated crusts having the characteristic structure of hematite. The specific gravity of the platinum is from 18.13 to 20.48, showing it to be very pure. The deposits of this section do not appear to be very thick, but they occupy a relatively extensive line and are well worthy of systematic exploration. They are rich in palladium, and contain no iron, being comparable as regards density to the Russian platinum, differing from it in the absence of iron.

The platinum of the Rio Abaete is strongly magnetic, very rich in iron, and free of palladium. It occurs in thin plates strongly rolled and dissolves readily in aqua regia, leaving an insoluble residue of iridosmine and a few small insignificant crystals of perowskite.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

By a decree of January 16, 1908, the "Para Public Works Company (Limited)," is authorized to operate in the Republic. The company is organized with a capital of £62,000, and has its main office in England. It has for its object the construction and operation of public services of all kinds in the city of Belem, State of Para.

A commission has been appointed to prepare a commercial map of Brazil for the Exposition of 1908. This map will give the new boundary line of Brazil, population, products and transportation facilities. It will be published in Portuguese, French, English, German and Italian.

On January 8, 1908, the President of the Republic approved the plans and estimates for the improvement works of the port of Massiambu, State of Santa Catharina, and the branch road connecting the port with the D. Thereza Christina Railway.

On January 4, 1908, the National Congress voted an appropriation of 2,400 *contos* (approximately $720,000) to finish building the national library and furnishing the same.

The Brazilian Congress has also opened a special credit of 300 *contos* (about $90,000) for the expenses consequent upon the holding of the Fourth Latin-American Medical Congress at Rio in 1909.

According to figures furnished by the Board of Health of Rio de Janeiro, there was a marked decrease in the mortality of that city for 1907, notwithstanding a considerable growth in population. The mortality for 1906 and 1907 was 13,960 and 12,106, respectively.

The new market building, situated on the wharf Del Vecchio, was formally opened on December 14. It covers an area of 22,500 square meters.

CHILE.

CUSTOMS REVENUES DURING 1907.

Customs receipts at the various ports of the Republic of Chile for the calendar year 1907 aggregated 120,305,347.90 *pesos* ($40,101,782.63), showing an increase of 6,989,109.32 *pesos* ($2,329,703.10) when compared with the sum of 113,316,238.58 *pesos* ($37,772,079.52) collected in 1906. The revenues during the month of December, 1907, amounted to 12,734,256.90 *pesos* ($4,244,752.33), as compared with 12,009,435.32 in the same month of 1906.

APPROPRIATION FOR GOVERNMENT RAILROADS IN 1908.

The total appropriation for expenditures of the Government Railroads during the year 1908 amounts to 46,406,250.50 *pesos* ($15,468,750.17), distributed as follows among the different lines:

Line.	*Pesos.*
Central system (Red Central)	43,896,250.50
Chanaral Railroad	635,000.00
Huasco Railroad	225,000.00
Coquimbo Railroad	1,320,000.00
Tongoi Railroad	170,000.00
Los Vilos	160,000.00
Total	46,406,250.50

CONSTRUCTION OF THE LONGITUDINAL RAILWAY AUTHORIZED.

The following is the text of the decree authorizing the construction of the Longitudinal Railway, promulgated January 23, 1908:

"ARTICLE 1. The President of the Republic is authorized for a period of three years to contract, at a fixed price, in whole or in part, the survey, construction, and equipment of the railways necessary to connect the city of Ligua with the ports of Papudo and Arica. The line between Ligua and Copiapo shall be completed before the expiration of five years.

"ART. 2. The total price of the works shall not exceed £7,500,000, and shall be paid with an accumulative sinking fund that shall not be less than one-half of 1 per cent per annum. Until said price is paid, the contractors shall operate the railway lines for their own account, in accordance with tariffs approved by the Government, the State guaranteeing them interest at the rate of 5 per cent per annum.

"ART. 3. The lease of the intermediate Government railway lines between Ligua and Chanaral, referred to in article 1, during their exploitation by the contractors, is hereby authorized.

"ART. 4. The President of the Republic is authorized, for a period of one year, to construct the railways from Curico to Llico, and from Arbol to Pichilemu, at a fixed price, for sums not exceeding 7,500,000 *pesos* gold of a value of 18d., in the first instance, and 2,500,000 *pesos* of the same money, in the second instance.

"ART. 5. Private and municipal lands required in the construction of the aforesaid railways, their stations and annexes, in accordance with the plans approved by the President of the Republic, are hereby declared to be subject to expropriation.

"The expropriation shall be effected in accordance with the law of June 18, 1857, and the proceedings relating thereto may be commenced within the term of five years.

"The materials necessary for the construction of the railway lines referred to in article 1, and for the exploitation of the same for a period of five years, shall be free of import duties. The President of the Republic shall determine the class and quantity of the free articles.

"ART. 6. The inversion of 3,000,000 of *pesos* in the expropriation of lands, technical inspection and other expenses of the railways

authorized by the foregoing articles, and of 300,000 *pesos* for the study of the ports, is hereby authorized.

"ART. 7. The expropriation by the contractors of the line from Ligua to the port of Arica, shall be in conformity with the law of August 6, 1862.

"ART. 8. Contracts made in conformity with the present law, are not assignable without the consent of the President of the Republic.

"The contractors and their representatives, even though they be foreigners and nonresidents of Chile, shall be considered as domiciled in the Republic and subject to the laws of the country the same as though they were Chileans in everything relating to said contracts, it being understood that the contractors or the persons acquiring their rights shall not have recourse to diplomatic intervention in any question that may arise in connection therewith."

GROWTH OF THE MERCHANT MARINE.

United States Consul ALFRED A. WINSLOW, of Valparaiso, reports that the Chilean merchant marine is increasing very rapidly, and at present is exceeded by that of only one South American country—Brazil—which has a tonnage of 211,194 against 156,316 for Chile. Of the Chilean shipping 107,727 tons are steam and 48,589 sail. It is mostly engaged in the west coast trade of South America. During the year 1906 there was an increase of 30,122 tons in vessels flying the Chilean flag.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES IN 1907.

On October 28, the Secretary of the Treasury stated that his predecessor in office had estimated the receipts for 1907 as follows:

Balance from 1906	$13,583,490.73
Ordinary receipts	147,500,000.00
Special receipts	29,500,000.00
Total in Chilean currency	[a] 190,583,490.73

The estimated expenditures for 1907 were $193,627,373,[b] less $21,000,000 derived from appropriations for the construction of the Arica to Alto de La Paz Railway and the sewers of Santiago, thus reducing the expenditures of the budget to $172,000,000. It should be noted, however, that the expenses authorized by special laws amounted to $11,610,485.57, probably making the expenditures at the end of 1907, $184,437,798, and cash on hand to the amount of $66,645,991.97, Chilean currency.

[a] $63,500,000, approximately.

[b] $64,500,000, approximately.

COAL MINES.

From the "*Boletin de la Sociedad Nacional de Mineria*," for October and November, 1907, the following information concerning the coal lands of Chile has been obtained.

The coal at present mined in Chile has been almost unanimously classified as "lignite," but there are other kinds of coal which can not be so classified.

The analysis of the coal produced in the province of Arauco shows that this coal has a caloric value equal to from 92 to 93.8 per cent of the English coal from south and north Wales. A comparison with Australian coal shows results still more favorable to the Chilean product, which is also superior to the best Japanese coal. Finally it may be said that, judging from the investigations and experiments made both in Europe and Chile with Chilean coal, the superiority of the latter over European lignites has been fully demonstrated.

After due investigation it may be stated that there are in the Republic coal deposits that can produce an excellent quality of coke, which may possibly serve for the smelting of iron ores, and which is assuredly suitable for the reduction of some other minerals. An anthracite zone having been discovered in Chile, such as the deposits of Quilacoya and Huimpil, the coal of which contains a large proportion of fixed carbon and very little volatile matter, there is no doubt that the mixture of the products of this zone with certain coals from the coast, would produce a good quality of coke.

The deposits that are at present being mined are situated in the southern coast of the Republic, in a zone bounded on the north by the northern shores of the Talcahuano Gulf, on the south by the port of Lebu, on the east by the Cordilleras of the coast, or those of Nahuelbuta, and on the west by the Pacific Ocean. The most important deposits extend a considerable distance under the sea, and a coal mine is also being exploited in the Territory of Magellanes, near Punta Arenas.

Notwithstanding the rich coal mines of the Republic, from 1901 to the first half of 1906, Chile made the following importations of coal for home consumption:

Year.	English coal.	Australian coal.	American coal.	Total.
	Tons.	*Tons.*	*Tons.*	*Tons.*
1901	360,082	497,379	33,150	890,611
1902	395,024	399,427	34,887	829,338
1903	317,495	485,334	6,825	809,654
1904	445,742	457,020	11,323	914,085
1905	598,438	489,337	4,600	1,092,375
First half of 1906	172,781	159,767	.....	332,548
Total	.....	.....	.....	4,868,611

NATIONAL SHOE AND LEATHER EXPOSITION OF 1907.

The *"Boletín de la Sociedad de Fomento Fabril,"* of Santiago, Chile, publishes in its issue for December, 1907, an interesting account of the National Shoe and Leather Exposition of 1907 inaugurated in Santiago on the 18th of October, 1907. This exposition has served to show that the shoe and leather industries of the Republic are at present in a remarkable condition of progress and perfection, and the exhibits of their manufactured products attracted the attention of the public in general. The number of factories participating in the exposition was 23, in which are included shoe factories and tanning establishments as well.

The following figures represent the total production, capital, etc., of said factories:

Annual production of tanned and sole leather, 160,000 *pesos;* daily production of boots and shoes 5,670 pairs, number of workingmen employed in the factories, 3,510, total capital invested, 16,490,000 *pesos.*

Besides these, there are in the Republic many other shoe and leather factories, the total capital of which is estimated at about 34,000,000 *pesos.*

With these figures in view, an idea may be formed of what the shoe and leather industries of Chile represent, the capitals invested being estimated at the minimum amount of 50,000,000 *pesos.* These two industries promote and give life to several other important ones, such as the preparation of tanning woods, lime, etc., and the manufacture of pasteboard boxes, the total annual production of which industries ranges from 12,000,000 to 15,000,000 *pesos.*

COMMERCIAL TREATY WITH DENMARK.

The Chilean *"Diario Oficial"* for November 29, 1907, publishes the text of a commercial treaty ratified at Berlin on April 9, 1907, whereby reciprocal most-favored-nation treatment is provided for between the Governments of Chile and Denmark, in all that concerns commerce and navigation.

It is agreed, however, that any special reductions of customs duties, or any commercial privileges, as well as special concessions in the matter of port and mole duties and navigation dues, which may be accorded by Chile to other Central or South American States, exclusively, can not be claimed by Denmark under the most-favored-nation clause of the treaty.

Both contracting parties reserve to themselves the right to alter the laws and regulations respecting coasting trade in favor of the national shipowners, Chile being able to extend concessions to the shipowners of the Central and South American States and Denmark to the Scandinavian States, without reciprocally mutual exemptions, so long as they are not extended to States other than those mentioned.

COMMERCE OF TALTAL.

In the first seven months of 1907 the custom-house receipts at Taltal amounted to 3,687,688 *pesos*, which indicates a steady yearly increase in the receipts of said port, as is shown by the following statement from the Chilean Customs Bulletin (*"Boletin Oficial de la Superintendencia de Aduanas"*):

"In 1902 the value of the imports through the custom-house at Taltal amounted to 1,327,188 *pesos*, while that of 1906 amounted to 6,995,204 *pesos*, which represents nearly six times the value of the imports of 1902. During the five years from 1902 to 1906, the value of the imports of merchandise amounted to 20,500,000 *pesos*.

"From 1902 to 1906, the value of the exports shows an increase of more than 150 per cent, inasmuch as in 1902 the value of exports amounted to 294,758 *pesos*, while in 1906 it amounted to 25,043,746 *pesos*, or a total of 81,063,903 *pseos* in the five years to which reference has been made.

"The value of the imports in coastwise commerce in 1902 amounted to 4,003,287 *pesos*, and that of the exports amounted to 593,211 *pesos*, while in 1906 the value of the former amounted to 15,759,583 *pesos*, and that of the latter 1,211,401 *pesos*.

"In 1902 the custom-house receipts at Taltal amounted to 3,248,187 *pesos*, and in 1906 to 7,376,552 *pesos*, the total receipts during the five years being 25,633,757 *pesos*.

EXCHANGE OF INTERNATIONAL POSTAL MONEY ORDERS WITH JAPAN.

The exchange of international postal money orders between Chile and Japan has been established since the 1st of January, 1908. The money orders may be drawn on any point of Japan, including the islands of Formosa, Pescadores, and Japanese Sakhalien, and they must be made in *francs* and *centimes* in accordance with the prescribed equivalents. The maximum of the value shall be 1,000 *francs*.

PAYMENT OF IMPORT AND STORAGE DUTIES.

A law of the Chilean National Congress, passed on the 9th of September, 1907, and published in the *"Diario Oficial"* of the 11th of the same month, provides that the payment of import and storage duties shall be made in paper money with the respective surcharge, in the manner prescribed by Law No. 1992 of August 27, 1907.

COLOMBIA.

NEW CABINET.

On March 10, 1908, the following new Cabinet was appointed: Minister of the Interior, Señor Don Francisco José Urrutia; Minister of Foreign Relations, Señor Don Marcelino Vargas; Minister of Finance and Treasury, Señor Don Ricardo Restrepo; Minister of War, General Victor Calderón; Minister of Public Instruction, Señor Don Emiliano Isaza; Minister of Public Works, Señor Don José María Ruiz.

TRADE OF CARTAGENA, 1907.

Data furnished the International Bureau of the American Republics by United States Consul I. A. Manning show increased shipments from Colombia through the port of Cartagena for the year 1907, as compared with 1906, of the leading items of Colombian export.

Coffee shipments increased by 3,988,647 kilograms; tobacco, 2,267,151; ivory nuts, 1,968,816, and rubber, 20,052.

The distribution of these exports was as follows:

[Expressed in kilograms.]

	United States.		United Kingdom.		Germany.		France.		Other countries.	
	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.
Coffee	4,432,603	7,404,329	783,511	1,346,662	740,711	1,119,299	31,344	68,472	9,695	47,749
Tobacco	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,713,660	3,980,811	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ivory nuts	7,528	440,772	.....	53,031	1,862,574	3,422,964	591,438	505,589	.....	.....
Rubber	86,399	86,569	72,787	77,360	40,751	36,352	33,943	43,750	.....	9,901

Imports at Cartagena for the years ending June 30, 1906 and 1907, show the following valuations for articles of United States origin and of other countries taken together.

[Expressed in kilograms.]

	United States.		All countries.	
	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.
Machinery, except sewing machines	195,518	238,334	283,158	407,805
Books, printed	5,338	1,598	12,371	14,917
Canned goods	61,411	20,354	125,075	75,465
Cement	22,859	109,455	682,820	1,133,596
Drugs and medicines	956,019	121,980	1,239,225	443,554
Flour, wheat	1,875,526	572,160	1,944,326	573,979
Sewing machines	22,706	80,879	25,609	87,082
Oil, kerosene	1,241,811	923,889	1,248,615	928,225
Prepared foods	.....	32,595	.....	93,095
Rice	794,799	133,884	3,993,309	2,407,904
Tallow	80,100	82,985	81,371	101,960
Lard	491,946	22,211	491,058	.....
Wire fencing	622,966	608,781	641,017	692,908

TREATY OF AMITY, COMMERCE, AND NAVIGATION WITH ECUADOR.

The official bulletin of the Department of Foreign Relations of Colombia publishes in its issue for January, 1908, the text of the treaty of amity, commerce, and navigation between said Republic and that of Ecuador, signed on the 10th of August, 1905, the exchange of ratifications taking place in the city of Quito on October 24, 1907.

In article 1 of the treaty it is agreed that there shall be peace and perpetual friendship between the two Republics. Article 2 provides for the extradition of criminals. The high contracting parties agree in article 3 not to resort to arms, in case the friendly relations between them be interrupted, until all amicable means to settle such differences as may have arisen shall have been exhausted and until one of the parties expressly refuses to give due satisfaction, after a friendly and neutral power designated as arbiter shall have awarded the controversy. Article 4 prescribes that there shall be reciprocal freedom of commerce and navigation between the two Republics. By virtue of article 5, Colombian vessels arriving at ports of Ecuador and, reciprocally, Ecuadorian vessels arriving at ports of Colombia shall be considered as national vessels for the collection of port dues.

In articles 6 and 8 to 11 are established reciprocal customs privileges and franchises for merchandise imported or exported in vessels of the contracting Republics and for natural and manufactured products thereof. Article 7 prescribes that all vessels duly registered in accordance with the laws of the one country shall be considered as national vessels of the other. In accordance with article 12 imports from other nations shall pay duties as prescribed in the general customs tariffs. Article 13 provides that if a war or merchant vessel of one of the contracting nations is wrecked, grounded, suffers any damage, or is in need of repairs, etc., the same assistance and protection given to the ships of the harboring nation shall be given her. In article 14 it is stipulated that citizens of one of the contracting Republics traveling or residing in the territory of the other shall not be pressed or detained with their ships, crews, etc., for military expeditions, public or private use, etc., without allowing them just and sufficient indemnity. By virtue of article 15, the citizens of one Republic shall have right to acquire in the other real estate and to administer it by themselves or by agent; to engage in any agricultural, mercantile or manufacturing industry; to practice any literary or scientific profession, and to appear before the authorities and courts of justice in matters in which they may be interested or which they may represent; the same article declares them exempt from military service and from the payment of compulsory loans and other extraordinary personal taxes, when residing in the territory of the other Republic. It is stipulated in article 16 that, in the event hostilities break out between the two Republics, the

citizens of the one, residents or transients in the territory of the other, shall not be compelled to leave the country except for the same reasons and through the same legal formalities by which are expelled the citizens of the Republic in which they reside or may be at the time; it is further stipulated that the hostilities shall not be carried on except by the duly authorized military officers and their commands; that towns shall not be burnt nor sacked nor shall the lives of prisoners of war or noncombatants be endangered, nor shall the commerce between the two Republics be interrupted.

In order to prevent difficulties which might be occasioned to commerce through a state of war in which one of the contracting parties may find itself with another country or countries, it is agreed in article 17 by the two Republics to recognize and admit the principle that the flag covers property and persons, except combatants of the belligerent nation. In article 18 it is provided that if one of the contracting Republics should be in war with a third nation, and the other remain neutral, the property of the latter and of her citizens found on board the enemy's ships shall be subject to confiscation. In accordance with article 19, neither of the two Republics shall render assistance of any nature to the enemies of the other, nor shall permit any recruiting of troops or arming or manning of war or privateer vessels to be made in her territory. For the perfect interpretation of articles 16 and 17, the materials that shall be considered as contraband of war are specified in article 20. In article 21 the high contracting parties agree to maintain in force all laws suppressing the slave trade and to enact such measures as are necessary to prevent it. By virtue of article 22, each of the contracting Republics may establish consuls and vice-consuls in the ports and mercantile places in the territory of the other, and they shall be accorded the same privileges granted to those of the most-favored nation. Article 23 provides that if one of the two Republics grants another nation any privileges in regard to commerce or navigation, the same privilege shall inure to the other. In order to maintain their friendly relations on a firm and lasting basis the contracting parties agree in article 24 that in case a citizen of one of them should violate any of the terms of the treaty, such citizen shall be made personally responsible for the violation, and the relations between the two countries shall not be interrupted. In article 25 it is agreed that should one of the two Governments violate any of the articles of the treaty, the other articles in regard to different subjects shall remain in full force. It is stipulated in article 26 that, pending the settlement of the boundary question by special convention, the boundaries fixed in the Colombian Law of June 25, 1824, for the old Departments of Cauca and Ecuador, shall be recognized; it is further agreed in this article that both countries shall cooperate in preserving the integrity of the territory of the

former Republic of Colombia belonging to them. Article 27 repeals the treaties signed in Pasto on the 8th of December, 1832, and provides that the duration of the articles herein relating to commerce and navigation shall be six years from the date of the exchange of ratifications; in accordance with the same article, articles 1, 2, and 16 regarding the political relations between the two countries shall be perpetually in force. Article 28, the last one of the treaty, prescribes the manner of effecting the ratifications and the exchange thereof.

NAVIGATION ON THE MAGDALENA RIVER.

In a session held the 5th of December, 1908, the council of ministers of the Colombian Republic resolved that a decree be enacted appropriating the sum of $120,000 per year for the payment of subsidies assigned to steamboat companies on the Magdalena River which may establish their export rates in agreement with the Government.

In the same session it was also resolved to appropriate the amount of $30,000 per year to cover bounties to be paid to producers exporting their articles through the custom-houses of Tumaco, Buenaventura, and Cucuta.

Concerning the new regulations governing the carrying trade on the Magdalena River, United States Consul I. A. Manning, of Cartagena, according to the "Daily Consular Report" for February 20, states that:

After a brief trial of the export bounties on coffee and other articles paid to the transportation companies doing the carrying trade on the Magdalena, the Government has suspended the payments, and in lieu thereof the companies will receive a subsidy of $1,000 gold per round trip between Barranquilla and Calomar and El Dorado on the upper river, for which they will give a reduction of freight rates on certain articles for export, which come almost altogether down that route.

The freight rates up river, from Barranquilla and Calomar to the Bodegas de Bogota and Caracola are $17 and $15.75 per metric ton, respectively, and from the latter places down to Barranquilla and Calomar $12.50 and $11.50 per ton, with relative reductions in intervening points.

All classes of machinery of an industrial or agricultural nature or for mining uses, all kinds of tools and implements, natural and chemical fertilizers, wire fencing, iron or metal roofing, water pipe, hydraulic cement, lubricating oils, live plants, and sacks for coffee must be carried at a discount of 25 per cent from the above rates, while dried fish and soap, candles and cotton and woolen goods manufactured in the country shall be carried at a discount of 50 per cent.

Of the "down-river freight" coffee and hides for export must be carried at a discount of 25 per cent, and also sugar. Cotton, vegetable fibers, flour, potatoes, corn, rice, wheat, and small fruits, sent to the coast for export, as well as military supplies, enjoy a discount of 70 per cent from the tariff rates.

First-class passenger from Barranquilla or Cartagena to the Bodegas de Bogota $32, with relative reductions to intervening points. For a stateroom on the steamers there is a surcharge of 20 per cent. Second-class passengers pay two-thirds of the regular tariff and third class or "deckers" pay one-third. First-class passengers are allowed 330 pounds of baggage, second class 165 pounds, and third class 110 pounds.

Consul MANNING also reports that the Government of Colombia, in addition to the loan made to LUIS GIESEKEN, who operates a line of steamboats on the Magdalena River, has taken stock in the company to the amount of $200,000 American gold. The company will be known as the *Compañía de Navegación del Magdalena.*

RAILROAD SUBSIDIES DURING 1908.

The following résumé of a railroad report published in the "*Diario Oficial,*" of Colombia, for December 24, 1907, shows the amounts to be paid during 1908 by the Government to railroad companies on account of subsidies, interests, and other expenses on railroad lines under exploitation or construction:

	Gold.
For payment to the Girardot Railway Company the guaranty of interest on the sum of £200,000, at the rate of 6 per cent per annum	$60,000.00
For the payment to the same company of the subsidies for 8 kilometers of railway recently opened at the rate of $10,000 per kilometer	80,000.00
For the payment of the 3 units of the revenues from the Atlantic custom-houses to be applied to the amortization of bonds of the National Railway of Occidental Colombia	177,884.94
For the payment of the warrants of the Cauca Railroad, with 50 per cent of the gross revenues from the custom-houses of Buenaventura and Tumaco	121,942.00
For payment to be made to the Departments of Cundinamarca and Quesada	83,353.88
For payment of salaries of inspectors on Government railroad lines	10,800.00
For payment of fees to engineers commissioned by the Government to receive completed railroad lines, and for other expenditures	2,000.00
Total	900,000.00

SHOE AND LEATHER INDUSTRY.

Shipments of boots and shoes to Colombia from the United States during 1907 were valued at $47,874, against $59,192 in the preceding year, and during the eighteen months ending December 31, 1906, the total import of shoes imported through this port was 7,896 kilos, of which 5,776 kilos came from the United States. During the same period 567 kilos of rubber shoes, 420 kilos from France, 113 from the

United States, and 34 from Germany, were imported. The United States supplied 503 kilos of shoe trimmings and England 241, out of a total importation of 793 kilos. The imports of leather during that period were 17,918 kilos, of which the United States supplied 14,296 kilos, probably the greater part of it for shoe manufacture. Of patent leathers England supplied 995 kilos, the United States 100 kilos, and Germany 70 kilos. A good deal of this was sent to the interior of the country, and the proportion of local consumption is unknown.

United States Consul I. A. MANNING reports as follows concerning shoemaking in Cartagena, where, he states, a factory was established three years ago and began with a capacity of 20 pairs daily. Their market is principally Cartagena, but they also ship to the towns on the Sinu and Atrato rivers. The product is not up to the finish of the American shoes of the same grade, yet it makes a fairly good appearance on shelf and show case. The wearing qualities are said to be excellent, and now, with new machines, they expect to make a shoe that will compete favorably with any other product of similar characteristics. Their ordinary McKay men's black leather shoe wholesales from the factory at $2.30 per pair, and retails here at $2.75. The Colombian Government has placed a protective duty on shoes which favors this factory, the duty being $1.36 per kilo (2.2 pounds), which covers also weight of packing and cases.

The Cartagena factory is an up-to-date plant, equipped with American machinery, and supplied with American-made patterns, although most of the lasts and patterns were in French shapes. They use American stock for all uppers, but the cloth for lining is the product of the Cartagena cotton factory and the sole stock is from the output of their own tannery at this place. At this factory are manufactured various grades of shoes for men, women, and children in welts, turns, and McKays, and the local demand is almost entirely supplied from the output.

The factory employs about 30 hands, and has been putting out 100 pairs per day. There is now being installed a number of new American machines, including welt and turn machines, stitcher, slugger, stitch separator, soling machine, channel machine, and a rough rounder, all from a manufacturing establishment of Lynn, Mass., and declared to be the latest machines of their class. The factory employs an 8-horsepower kerosene engine (automatic), but will soon increase its power. When the new machinery is installed, the capacity will be increased to 400 pairs per day; and while it will be some time before it will likely be run to its full capacity, the output will be very materially increased immediately, in order to meet the growing demand.

Men work by "task" and earn from 80 cents to $1.50 American gold per day. There are 6 apprentices and they earn 50 cents per day, and in the pattern room there are a few women employed.

COSTA RICA.

CONSULAR INVOICES.

According to instructions issued by the Bureau of Statistics of Costa Rica, dating from February 1, 1908, consular invoices must only be signed by the heads of exporting houses or by their duly authorized legal representatives.

These instructions also prescribe that from the same date, four copies of the consular invoices must always be presented for legalization, the fourth copy to be filed in the archives of the consulate.

A COSTA RICAN VIEW OF THE CENTRAL AMERICAN COURT OF JUSTICE.

From a statement presented to the National Congress of Costa Rica, by Señor Don Luis Anderson, Secretary of Foreign Affairs of that Republic, and President of the Central American Peace Conference, the following opinions regarding the establishment of a Central American court of justice, are quoted:

"Another important convention concluded by the Peace Conference is that relating to the establishment of a Central American court of justice. It appears in 28 articles that constitute the agreement, a provisional article and another annexed article that are in the nature of a recommendation which, if they see fit, the respective legislatures may incorporate into the treaty.

"The Central American court of justice, the first of its kind that will be established among nations, gives material form to the thought of eminent statesmen and philanthropists, who for a long time have been struggling to establish means in consonance with the tendencies of civilization for the settlement of international conflicts.

"Said court will be a permanent tribunal, which will proceed in the matters that are submitted to it for decision in accordance with the judicial rules of investigation observed by all the judicial tribunals of the civilized world, and shall decide impartially in accordance with the teaching of international law and with a view to a strict and scrupulous termination of the matter.

"Arbitration as the means of settling international difficulties has been the ideal of modern diplomacy; but for its realization in a manner that all peoples may accept it without reserve it is indispensable to give it juridic character which by the nature of its functions belong to it. Arbitration exercised by an umpire whom the parties have chosen to decide cases of conflict or difference of opinion between them has been an effort but slightly satisfactory in its results. The arbiter, although it has been attempted to cloak him with the attributes of a judge, has not shown himself, in the greater number of cases, in any other character than that of a friendly adjuster, a diplomat who

after a more or less complete investigation of the matter submitted to his judgment has occupied himself rather in satisfying both parties litigant than in deciding in strict justice in favor of the party entitled to it, and in the majority of cases leaving the parties resorting to him dissatisfied. And it is natural that it should happen thus. The arbiter desires peaceful adjustment for those who have by common accord chosen him as a judge in their quarrels, and he renders judgments that he believes just and conciliatory, and in very good faith it is true, but nearly always without thorough knowledge of the matter, and only with the benevolent desire that in some manner the controversy may terminate and peace reign, although without the absolute prevalence of strict right.

"This has been the stumbling block with which the humanitarian doctrine of arbitration has met, intrusted to persons or commissions chosen ad hoc for the case as it arises. Right among nations, as among individuals, is not satisfied by a halfway adjustment, which leaves each one in the belief that he has been deprived of something that is his, but it requires a decision founded upon strict justice, to which all submit because the latter represents the inflexible expression of truth; and this is the only way that all questions can be finally decided without leaving feelings of wounded pride or of legitimate interests defrauded.

"I believe it proper to quote, in relation to this, the statement of the eminent Secretary of State of the United States of America, Mr. Elihu Root, upon opening the Congress of Peace and Arbitration that met in the city of New York on April 15, 1907:

"'What we need for the further development of arbitration is the substitution of judicial action for diplomatic action, the substitution of judicial sense of responsibility for diplomatic sense of responsibility. We need for abitrators not distinguished public men, concerned in all the international questions of the day, but judges who will be interested only in the question appearing upon the record before them. Plainly, this end is to be attained by the establishment of a court of permanent judges, who will have no other occupation and no other interest but the exercise of the judicial faculty under the sanction of that high sense of responsibility which has made the courts of justice in the civilized nations of the world the exponents of all that is best and noblest in modern civilization.'

"With faith in these ideas, the Central American Republics, upon commencing a new life, relegating to oblivion past errors, persuaded as they are that the cardinal point in their compass ought to be the accomplishment of a positive and great prosperity, have sought in this new conception of arbitration the most powerful support of their desired tranquillity, and in order to put it into practice agreed in Washington to establish the Central American Court of Justice.

"To the end of constituting that high tribunal in such a manner that it may be the recipient of the most absolute confidence of those who are to bring to it the solution of their disagreements, it is necessary that the justices who compose it be men of recognized ability and integrity, and in that sense the convention provides that said justices shall be chosen—

'From among the jurists who possess the qualifications which the laws of each country prescribe for the exercise of high judicial office and who enjoy the highest consideration, both because of their moral character and their professional ability.'

"Organized, therefore, with such a personnel of irreproachable honor, free by reason of the character of the institution which has created it, there is no doubt but that the Central American Court of Justice will be as Article XIII says, 'Representative of the national conscience of Central America,' and that the people will have nothing to fear upon bringing their reciprocal differences to the final judgment of that conscience.

"I believe that the high position which belongs to the Central American court of justice can not be presented more clearly. Its members being named by the legislative power of each country, they will owe their office to the national will, conveyed with implicit trust, and they will, therefore, enter upon the exercise of their lofty and humanitarian duties without political compromises that may influence their conduct and surrounded by the highest prerogatives which can be conferred on a citizen within our republican régime, since, as Article X says:

'Whilst they remain in the country of their appointment the regular and substitute justices shall enjoy the personal immunity which the respective laws grant to the magistrates of the supreme court of justice, and in the other contracting republics they shall have the privileges and immunities of diplomatic agents.'

"Under such conditions the Central American court of justice, as a creation of the popular will, need follow no other counsels than those of wisdom, nor listen to any other voice than that of conscience. Thus constituted, this tribunal, in my opinion, will be the highest that all those who are possessed by the spirit of justice, and who busy themselves by placing the sacred ideal of right in an inviolable sanctuary, can dream of at the present time, so fruitful of grand concepts.

"The first four articles of the convention point out the object for which the court is created and the scope which its attributes cover.

"The contracting parties thereupon bind themselves: 'To submit (to the court) all controversies or questions which may arise among them, of whatsoever nature and no matter what their origin may be, in case the respective departments of foreign affairs should not have been able to reach an understanding.'

"Here is avoided the possibility that the Central American Governments will in the future air the differences that arise among them in any other field than: First, that of diplomacy; or, later, the judicial field of the court, as a decisive and final resort, if in the former an agreement has not been reached. Appeal to arms has been absolutely rejected as a means of settling any controversy between these nations; and that provision alone would be of sufficient merit that the convention should be adopted by Central Americans with universal applause.

"But more than this—

'This court shall also take cognizance of the questions which individuals of one Central American country may raise against any of the other contracting Governments, because of the violation of treaties or conventions and other cases of an international character, no matter whether their own Government supports said claim or not; and provided that the remedies which the laws of the respective country provide against such violation shall have been exhausted or that denial of justice shall have been shown.'

"This breadth of jurisdiction of the court tends, above all, to prevent the possibility that a controversy between a government and one or more citizens of another Central American nation might be converted into an international conflict, if said citiezns should resort to soliciting the protection of their respective Governments, instead of taking their differences to the court, as the only authorized tribunal, when once the ordinary way has been exhausted, to hear and determine them, as the convention provides.

"Furthermore—

'It shall also take cognizance of the cases which by common accord the contracting Governments may submit to it, no matter whether they arise between two or more of them or between one of said Governments and individuals.'

"In which case the court will always be a potent element of good understanding, and the most expeditious judicial resort to put an end to questions that may concern the governments and to which resort may be had simply by the will and mutual agreement of the parties interested.

"Finally—

'The court can likewise take cognizance of the international questions which by special agreement any one of the Central American Governments and a foreign government may have determined to submit to it.'

"Thus will our Central American Court of Justice come to be an international institution of justice, to which the nations who at any time have anything to claim with respect to any of our countries, will not refuse to resort, seeking an equitable and prompt decision.

Perchance at some time, although remote—once the existence of the court is assured and its correct administration established—powerful nations will not find a more efficacious way of clearly showing their confidence in the right that supports their claims than by intrusting it to the hands of this tribunal.

"Article XVIII provides—

'From the moment in which any suit is instituted against any one or more governments up to that in which a final decision has been pronounced, the court may, at the solicitation of any one of the parties, fix the situation in which the contending parties must remain, to the end that the difficulty shall not be aggravated and that things shall be conserved in *statu quo* pending a final decision.'

"This power of fixing the *statu quo* is in accord with the doctrine concerning the powers of arbitral judges, which eminent jurists have supported, and is an element of great importance, in order that the action of the court may correspond to the lofty purposes of its institution; because it is logical that on attempting to decide a controversy this latter should continue in the state in which it is submitted to the judges, so that in every case the judgment may be directed toward a fixed, determined, and precise matter; and on the other hand warlike preparations, the mobilization of forces, or other acts that tend to alter the existing footing of the armed force a State maintains are likely to aggravate the situation and to cause the decision of the tribunal to be delayed or illusory, which can be avoided by means of a proper order of the court faithfully observed by all interested parties.

"According to the opinion held by the wisest expounders of public international law, arbitral judges ought to have the power to determine their jurisdiction, interpreting the treaties and conventions relative to their constitution and to the matter in dispute, and applying to their proceedings and resolutions the universally accepted principles of law. Without this the action of an arbitral tribunal becomes little less than impossible, its proceedings are uncertain, and the scope of its jurisdiction is involved in a question of interpretation. The conference kept in mind these observations and by Article XXII of the convention sanctioned said doctrine, expressly conferring on the court said power.

"In the other articles of the convention it is provided: That the seat of the court shall be in the city of Cartago in this Republic, but may temporarily be removed to another point in Central America, if special reasons exist therefor; that the regular and substitute justices shall be appointed for the term of five years and may be reelected; that the exercise of office of justice is incompatible with the practice of his profession and the discharge of public duties; that at its first annual session the court shall elect from among the justices the

President and Vice-President, and shall organize the personnel of its office, and the form of procedure that it must follow in the disposition of matters which are submitted to it, and other provisions of internal and economic régime; and it is finally declared that—

"'The high contracting parties solemnly declare that on no ground nor in any case will they consider the present convention as void; and that, therefore, they will consider it as being always in force during the term of ten years counted from the last ratification. In the event of the change or alteration of the political status of one or more of the contracting Republics, the functions of the Central American court of justice created by this convention shall be suspended *ipso facto;* and a conference to adjust the constitution of said court to the new order of things shall be forthwith convoked by the respective Governments; in case they do not unanimously agree the present convention shall be considered as rescinded.'

"Such are the provisions that constitute the agreement.

"With respect to the final provisory article, which is a mere annex whereby the jurisdiction of the court is extended to matters of an internal order, I believe that at present it can not be accepted by Costa Rica because it does not accord with our constitutional organization.

"I know well that those who mistrust moral advancement in society will ask me: 'And the Central American court of justice being established, whence will it derive the force necessary to give effective sanction to its judgments, compelling those who are unwilling to submit to them?'

"Force! That is just what we wish to be done with, substituting therefor philosophy and morality.

"I would answer those who ask me such a question that the force on which the Central American court of justice relies for the sure execution of its judgments is rooted in the honor of the nations who made the agreement, in the patriotism of Central Americans whose conscience said tribunal represents, in the judgment of other nations who are watching our conduct, and, above all, in the advance of civilization which is rapidly blotting out the asperities of barbarism, the only ones that still exact the protection of brute force for right and justice.

"In the conference of Washington, which I had the honor to attend as a member of the delegation of Costa Rica, I was an enthusiastic advocate for the establishment of the Central American court of justice; and I maintain my zeal in that regard, because I sincerely believe that there is a greater element of good than of evil in human nature, and that even if it does not reach perfection, which is a supreme attribute of God, it nevertheless rises high in the scale that leads to it. Pessimists may doubt the efficiency of good. I believe

in it, and I am in sympathy with all those who confide in its beneficent influence assuring more and more the rule of fraternity and justice among men and nations.

"The signatory Governments have formally bound themselves to obey and compel the findings of the court to be obeyed, lending all assistance necessary for the best and quickest disposition of matters that it may investigate; and with regard to making the judgment final, Article XXV reiterates the agreement of the signatory nations of the Convention in these terms—

"'The judgments of the court shall be communicated to the five Governments of the contracting Republics. The interested parties solemnly bind themselves to submit to said judgments, and all agree to lend all moral support that may be necessary in order that they may be properly fulfilled, thereby constituting a real and positive guarantee of respect for this convention and for the Central American court of justice.'"

"I repeat, deputies, that the force that must give sanction to the judgments that the court renders is in those articles that compromise the honor of the contracting nations. That is a powerful moral force, because on the day that respect for agreements solemnly made shall disappear, and they shall be violated without regard, we shall have to declare with sorrow that, in the present state of civilization, considering the path that it marks out to-day for bodies politic on the face of the earth, there is no possible redemption for such peoples.

"But this will not happen. I have faith in the future and I am sure that the Central American court of justice, constituted by that convention, the approval of which I do not doubt you will accord, will be for these countries the fruitful source of peace, of fraternity and of honor."

CUBA.

FISCAL REVENUES DURING 1907.

According to official statistics published in the January, 1908, number of the "Bulletin of the Chamber of Commerce, Industry, and Navigation of the Island of Cuba," the fiscal revenues of the Republic collected during the calendar year 1907 amounted to $29,118,827.29, as compared with $27,418,435.14 in 1906, or an increase of $1,700,392.15. During the year 1907 the collections of the tax for the amortization of the loan amounted to $3,692,786.16, which, compared with the sum of $3,683,742.84 collected in 1906, shows an increase of $9,043.32.

CUSTOMS MODIFICATIONS.

The following decree has been promulgated by the provisional governor of Cuba, January 27, 1908:

That order No. 206 from general headquarters, Department of Cuba, issued September 28, 1901, by the military governor, in pursuance of the order of the Secretary of War, in compliance with the directions of the President of the United States of America, September 21, 1901, in the part of the same which refers to paragraph 215 of the customs tariff in force, be and is hereby amended to read as follows:

215. Machinery and apparatus for making sugar and brandy:

(*a*) Complete machinery and apparatus applicable only to the manufacture of sugar, whoever be the importer.....ad valorem 10 per cent.

(*b*) Machinery and apparatus for making brandy; and other apparatus and machinery and integral parts of same which having several applications for industry and agriculture are destined as auxiliary for the manufacture of sugar and brandy; provided that same are imported for or by planters who under such regulations and security as the Secretary of the Treasury may prescribe shall justify the installation of same on their estates.....ad valorem 10 per cent.

NOTE I.—In the foregoing paragraph (*b*) shall be included the detached parts of the machinery and apparatus mentioned in paragraph (*a*) when imported separately; and by special concession fire bricks for the installation of boilers and furnaces, as well as the iron and steel houses, complete and knocked down, having or not glass or crystal parts, or other fireproof material, and the following material when imported for the construction or repairs of railways for the private use of the sugar plantations: Turntables, transfer bridges, iron or steel bridge work, riveted or rolled, iron or steel rails, points, crossings, signals, gate crossings, and metal ties, splices, fish plates, fish-plate bolts, spikes, frogs, semaphores, switches, and railroad ties of wood.

NOTE II.—Railroad rolling stock of any kind is excluded from this concession.

NOTE III.—In case that any of the private railways installed with the material imported under privilege of this decree, as well as under order 206, prior to this decree and hereby amended, be declared for the public service, the importer, or in his absence, or in case of transference of the property, the estate, shall be compelled to pay the full amount of duties, under the corresponding paragraph of the tariff, without any rebate or benefit. And these duties shall be collected since the date of the first importation made of such material.

This decree is to take effect thirty days after publication in the "Official Gazette," i. e., February 28, and all other circulars and decisions prior to this decree and relating to paragraph 215 inconsistent with the same are repealed.

Decree No. 1101, dated November 13, 1907, provides—

That paragraphs Nos. 162 and 163 of the customs tariff in force be and are hereby amended to read as follows:

Paragraph No. 162. Cardboard paper, and pasteboard in sheets:

A. Cardboard paper, fine cardboard and cardboard covered with glazed paper or with fancy paper, flowered, painted, embossed, or with any other kind of fancy work, T. (Disp. III, rule 5).....100 kilograms.. $3.50

B. Other pasteboard, and those covered with ordinary paper, white or dyed, satined or not, T. (Disp. III, rule 5).....100 kilograms.. 1.00

Paragraph No. 163. Manufactures of cardboard paper or pasteboard:

A. Boxes manufactured from cardboard paper, fine cardboard, or pasteboard, such as has been enumerated in paragraph No. 162A, or with paper ornaments or other materials which do not chiefly determine their value, T. (Disp. III, rule 5).....100 kilograms.. 7.00

B. Boxes manufactured from pasteboard, such as has been enumerated in paragraph No. 162 B, T. (Disp. III, rule 5).....100 kilograms.. $2.00
C. Cardboard in sheets or otherwise, with or without tissue inside, impregnated with tar, pitch, asphalt, cement or other analogous material, and used as roofing for buildings.....per cent ad valorem.. 25
D. Other manufactures of cardboard paper, fine cardboard or pasteboard, not specially mentioned, T. (Disp. III, rule 5).....100 kilograms.. 20.00

ECUADOR.

MUNICIPAL REVENUES OF GUAYAQUIL.

The estimates of municipal income and expenditure for 1907 for the city of Guayaquil fix the total income at 1,237,082 *sucres* ($618,450), derived as follows:

Export duty on cocoa	$180,000
Markets, slaughter houses, etc	129,000
Water tax	50,000
Liquor tax, licenses, etc	92,000
Public lights	24,000
Two per cent on import duties	22,000

Expenditures, calculated in the same amount, provide for $97,000 for street cleaning, lighting, etc.; $50,000 for administration services, $29,000 for municipal police, $25,000 for educational purposes, $39,500 for public charities, $180,000 for debt service, and $105,000 for public works.

SERVICE OF THE GUAYAQUIL AND QUITO RAILWAY BONDS.

In accordance with the proposition made by the President of Ecuador, the bond and share holders of the Guayaquil and Quito Railway agreed that part of the funds destined to the payment of the June, 1907, coupon instead of being applied to the service of the loan be advanced for the purpose of securing the completion of the line to Quito during 1907. This was accordingly done and further advances were made by the Government up to the total value of the coupon (about $450,000).

The money for the purpose was obtained by the issue of 1,000,000 sucres ($500,000) custom-house bonds to certain Guayaquil merchants against promissory notes discounted by the Bank of Ecuador, or against payments in cash at an agreed discount. These bonds are accepted at par value in payment of 50 per cent of general export duties and 100 per cent of all export duties on tagua (vegetable ivory).

QUITO AND GUAYAQUIL RAILWAY BOND ISSUE.

On January 15, 1908, the President of the Republic of Ecuador authorized, by a decree, the issue of 12,298 bonds of 188 *sucres* each ($90), to facilitate the payment of the semiannual coupons of the

railway bonds dated January 2, and July 2, 1908, and January 2, 1909. These bonds will bear interest at the rate of 4 per cent per annum from July 2, 1908, and the entire debt, which is redeemable within ten years, shall also bear 4 per cent interest, and from January 1, 1909, said bonds are guaranteed by all the revenue derived from the salt monopoly.

PAYMENT OF GUAYAQUIL AND QUITO RAILWAY BONDS.

On January 11, 1908, the following contract was entered into between the Government of Ecuador and the Guayaquil and Quito Railway Company for the payment of three coupons of the railway bonds guaranteed by the Government, the one due on January 2, 1908, and the other 2, which will fall due, respectively, on July 2, 1908, and January 2, 1909.

"ARTICLE 1. The Guayaquil and Quito Railway agrees to accept the sum of 2,695,332 *sucres* in certificates of the Government of Ecuador, in the form hereinafter expressed, in payment of the coupons corresponding to the 3 dates above mentioned.

"ART. 2. The Government shall make an issue of 12,289 certificates of 188 *sucres* each, which represent a total of 2,310,332 *sucres;* each certificate is equivalent to $90, the value of 3 interest coupons. From July 2, 1908, these certificates shall bear interest at the rate of 4 per cent annually, with a sinking fund of 4 per cent amortization, which shall be effected in ten years. These certificates are guaranteed by the salt monopoly, in full, from January 1, 1909; since up to that time the first guarantee given previously in another contract shall have the preference.

"(*a*) The Government binds itself in an irrevocable manner to deposit monthly in the Banco del Ecuador the product of the sale of salt, which sum shall be remitted by the Banco del Ecuador each month in drafts on London six days after receipt thereof to ROBARTS LUBBOCK & CO., or to the council of foreign bondholders, London, or to E. H. NORTON & CO., of New York, as may be ordered in future by the president of the Guayaquil and Quito Railway Company.

"(*b*) The aforementioned 12,289 certificates, which represent the sum of 2,310,332 *sucres*, shall be deposited with ROBARTS LUBBOCK & CO., the council of foreign bondholders, London, or E. H. NORTON & CO., as the above-mentioned president shall determine. Any one of said depositaries shall hold as a deposit 10,954 certificates, equivalent to 2,059,352 *sucres*, being authorized to deliver them to the bondholders of the railway, in payment of the 4 coupons which mature, respectively, on July 2, 1907, January 2 and July 2, 1908, and January 2, 1909. These 4 coupons, the value of which is $120 gold, shall be delivered to the Government of Ecuador by said ROBARTS LUBBOCK & CO., the council of foreign bondholders, or E. H. NORTON

& Co., of New York; each holder to receive a certificate for 188 sucres for each 4 coupons. For it must be noted that the coupon due on July 2, 1907, was paid in full in the million of sucres delivered to the president of the company in the months of August, September, October, and November, for the progress and conclusion of the railroad, and in virtue of the resolutions made at the meetings of the bondholders on July 25, 1907. In case any holder refuses to deliver the 4 coupons to the above mentioned, the certificate of 188 *sucres* shall be returned to the Government of Ecuador, and shall be of no value whatever.

"(*c*) Of the 12,289 certificates, E. H. NORTON & Co. shall hold 1,335, to be applied to the payment of the interest on the $2,000,000 of gold in bonds which, with preferential guaranty, the company shall issue in accordance with article 3.

"(*d*) The Government of Ecuador shall issue and deliver to the president of the Guayaquil and Quito Railway Company, 385 treasury certificates of 1,000 *sucres* each, payable in six months, and guaranteed by the 43 per cent of the customs revenues, which are devoted to the railway. The said 385 certificates shall bear the same interest and shall be guaranteed in the same manner as the 300 certificates for the value of 300,000 *sucres*, mentioned in the contract entered into with Mr. J. G. VALLARINO, of Guayaquil.

"The Railway Company shall employ the product of these 385 certificates: First, in paying the interest due on January 2, 1908, in connection with the special serial bonds; and secondly, in the payment of the other obligations of the company as may be necessary and be duly proved.

"(*e*) The total amount of the certificates which the Government must issue, according to the terms of this contract, is as follows:

"1. 10,954 certificates, which represent 2,059,352 *sucres*, for the payment of the coupons.

"2. 1,333 certificates, equivalent to the sum of 250,980 *sucres;* and

"3. 385 certificates, of the value of 385,000 *sucres*.

"All of which gives the sum of 2,695,332 *sucres*, exactly the same as that which the Government of Ecuador will owe as the interest and sinking fund corresponding to the second half of the year 1907, and to the twelve months of 1908.

"ART. 3. The Guayaquil and Quito Railway Company shall make an issue of 2,000 bonds of $1,000 gold each (American), which shall bear 6 per cent interest and 3 per cent amortization. The service of these bonds, till their complete redemption, shall be made with the $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent deducted from the 6 per cent interest which the Government pays on the principal railway bonds.

"These 2,000 bonds shall have a preferential mortgage guaranty on the railroad, its equipment, and all its belongings, including the

concessions made to the company; and also a further guaranty, equal to that which the principal bonds for the $12,282,000 have, both in respect of the funds devoted to the services of their interest and sinking fund, as also in respect of the preferential mortgage on the customs revenues.

"The Guayaquil and Quito Railway Company is hereby authorized to establish these guaranties in favor of the 2,000 bonds. It must be noted that the company binds itself to place these bonds at the rate of 90 per cent at least.

"ART. 4. The bondholders of the principal issue, that is of the $12,282,000 guaranteed by the first mortgage on the railroad, and by the preferential guarantee of the customs revenues of the Government of Ecuador, give their consent to the issue of the certificates and bonds to which the foregoing article refer; and agree in an irrevocable manner to accept 4½ per cent interest on the $12,282,000 gold in place of the 6 per cent stipulated for said principal bonds, and they renounce their right to the 1½ per cent, which is the difference between the 6 per cent and the 4½ per cent, during the time necessary for the redemption referred to.

"This difference, which is the aforesaid 1½ per cent, shall be applied: First, to the payment of the 6 per cent interest on the 2,000 bonds which are going to be issued; and, secondly, to the payment of the 3 per cent sinking fund for the same bonds. These payments shall take the same form until said 2,000 bonds have been completely redeemed; this done, the holders of the $12,282,000 in principal bonds shall continue to enjoy as before the 6 per cent.

"ART. 5. The product of the 2,000 bonds shall be applied in the following manner:

"1. Up to $900,000, to the payment of what the company owes on account of locomotives, materials, labor, etc., but all duly proved to the proper ministry.

"2. The balance shall be devoted to the purchase of new rolling stock, improvements on the line, workshops, etc., etc., and for the easy and economical administration of the company, all being proved in the manner expressed.

"ART. 6. The Government of Ecuador reiterates solemnly the stipulation contained in article 4 of the contract of November 26, 1898, and in consequence binds itself to deposit in the *Banco del Ecuador*, out of the first customs receipts, and proportionately per fortnight, the sum of $859,740 gold, the annual amount of which the Government must pay for interest and sinking fund on the sum of $12,282,000 represented by the principal bonds. These fortnightly deposits in the *Banco del Ecuador*, at the rate of $35,822, shall be made unfailingly from January 1, 1909, till the total cancellation of the principal bonds.

"The *Banco del Ecuador* shall remit, likewise fortnightly, $35,822 to GLYN, MILLS, CURRIE & Co., in bank drafts, each remittance to be made six days after receipt by the bank from the Government. The Government contracts this new obligation in exchange for the concessions made in the present contract by the bondholders of the Guayaquil and Quito Railway Company."

INTERNAL CONDITIONS.

Ecuadorian conditions, as reported by the British consul at Guayaquil, during 1907, show an improvement, so far as the value of native products, such as cocoa, rubber, hats, etc., is concerned, while imported articles have also increased in value.

In respect to public works, the Quito Railroad has been the principal undertaking, and has been gradually extended to Mocha, Ambato, Latacunga and Chasqui, while the latest information (January 1, 1908), reports its extension as far as Aloasi, about 35 kilometers from Quito.

The contract between the Government and the Guayaquil and Quito Railroad Company stipulated that the line should be finished to Quito by June 14, 1907, and, in consequence of the failure to fulfill the terms of the contract, arbiters have been appointed to settle the various points in dispute between the contracting parties.

The Puerto Bolivar and Machala Railway advanced slowly during 1906–7 into the cocoa districts, and rendered good service in bringing products to the seaport.

Consul CARTRIGHT further reports that the Huigra to Cuenca railroad has apparently been abandoned by the original projectors; the works on the road to Chone in the Bahia cocoa district, though commenced with public funds, have been abandoned, and the material, etc., imported for them has been left exposed. Cessation of work as regards the Curaray line is noted as also on the Santa Rosa to Zaruma road, the roads from Guayaquil to Salinas and from Manta to Santa Ana.

In Guayaquil, the new market place has been completed, and the state of public health very much improved by the application of the Dixon system to the destruction of city refuse. Other building operations are reported and an increase in population to between 80,000 and 90,000 inhabitants.

Electric lighting has been applied to the principal thoroughfares, the wharves and docks and the new suburbs of the capital. It is proposed to generate electric power through the agency of the mountain streams or those at the foot of the Cordilleras, about 55 to 58 miles distant, and the work on the electric tramway line is being pushed with vigor.

In Quito and Riobamba contracts have been made for new waterworks systems, the latter having been let to a United States engineer.

Sugar production is steadily on the increase throughout the Republic, the total for 1906 being 7,000 tons. Consumption has, however, increased proportionately, and before the crop of 1907 was gathered about 1,200 tons had been imported.

By a law passed at the close of 1906, the import duty on sugar was removed, the consequence being that foreign sugar from Peru and Central America can now be imported with only the additional cost of freight and handling. The result has been to depreciate prices to a level with the cost of imported sugars.

The business of the Guayaquil brewery has continued unaltered but the reduction of import dues on foreign beer has caused increased competition with the German and American product.

Salt, whose production is a Government monopoly, was shipped profitably, during 1906–7 to Tumaco and Buenaventura in Colombia. This line of export is, however, limited as yet.

The cotton factories of the interior have been somewhat handicapped by the scarcity of raw material and it is proposed to import cotton from Peru, though the import duty is about 5 cents per pound. Owing to the scarcity of flour, a law was passed in December, 1906, providing for the free entry of wheat, and also other grains, peas, beans, etc.

The cocoa shipments, which form the bulk of Ecuador's exports, remained practically unchanged at a little less than 21,000 tons in the last reported years, 1905 and 1906, but the increase in value represents a trade increase. The average price was $15 per 50 kilos f. o. b. at Guayaquil in 1905. This had advanced in 1906 to $17, and in 1907 to $23.50. This has been of great benefit to the agricultural and commercial interests and has greatly increased the value of Ecuadorian exports.

Vegetable ivory is the second article in volume and value of all Ecuadorian exports, being rated at 19,036 metric tons in 1905, and 21,796 in 1906. The price of this article has also increased considerably. The average rate in 1905 was $4 shelled and $2.75 unshelled per 100 pounds. In 1906, the price advanced to $4.50 and $3 for the shelled and unshelled, respectively, and in 1907, the export duties having been very largely increased, the consumers in Europe (who draw about 75 per cent of their supplies from Ecuador and about 25 per cent from Colombia) have been forced to buy at much higher prices, averaging at least $3.50 for unshelled and $5.75 for shelled nuts. The proportion of export is about 60 per cent of shelled to about 40 per cent of the unshelled nuts.

Straw hats, the third item on the export list, continue to show increased valuations, ranging from $350,000 in 1904, to $440,000 in

1905, and $1,220,000 in 1906, which latter figures the consul regards as much less than the actual values.

Rubber exploitation has been active and even enthusiastic, and has been carried on in districts farther removed from ports or regular roads, the production for 1906 being given as 620 tons.

The materials for railways and waterworks are largely supplied from the United States, while from Great Britain come nearly all the cotton stuffs, iron bedsteads, galvanized iron, iron bars, tubes, etc., tin plate and tinware, sacks, and jute goods, and linen goods and cashmeres.

LAND TITLES.

Mr. Herman R. Dietrich, American Consul-General at Guayaquil, has furnished the International Bureau of the American Republics with detailed information concerning the transfer, registration, and system of land titles in force in the Republic of Ecuador at the present time. The system is based on the law of July 29, 1869, amended by legislative decree of July 11, 1890, legislative decree of July 1, 1887, referring to the registration rules and regulations, legislative decree of July 21, 1890, concerning the special contribution tax, and articles 19 to 25 of the law governing the tariff for registering titles, notarial and judicial fees, etc.

The procedure to be observed in the conveyance or mortgaging of lands is as follows: (1) The titles must be presented to the notary public; (2) a certificate from the recorder of deeds must be produced, in order to show whether or not the property in question is in any way encumbered; (3) proper receipts must be presented, showing that all taxes have been paid, and that the special tax imposed by the Government on the sale of lands, in accordance with the law of alcabalas, has been satisfied. These requisites having been complied with, the notary public will draw up the deed of sale.

The recording of titles is optional, but it is advisable to register all titles, inasmuch as titles recorded in conformity with the law are indefeasible, and registration safeguards both the titles to urban and rural property. In the registration of a title or mortgage deed, a copy of the same, duly legalized by a notary public, who retains the original document in his office, must be presented to the recorder, who if he finds it in due legal form, will register it and note thereon that the instrument has been recorded upon such and such a page. If in examining the title the recorder discovers any legal impediment, he will make note thereof on the title deed and return the same to the party in interest. After the legal impediment has been corrected, the deed may again be presented to the recorder, who will register it in due form. A fee is charged by the notary for legalizing the instrument, and by the recorder for registering it.

When encumbered property is sold, the papers relating thereto must be presented to the proper judge, who will notify the mortgagor that the property is about to be sold, and will wait the prescribed time for a reply. On the expiration of the specified time, if no satisfactory answer has been received, the judge will order the property sold at public auction.

There are no means of ascertaining the number of titles registered annually, except by examining the registries of titles in the 56 Cantons of the Republic. Likewise there is no way of obtaining the number of titles that remain unregistered, and the number of registered and unregistered mortgages, except by examining the archives of every notary public and recorder in the country.

The annual receipts derived by the Government from the special tax on the sellers and mortgagers of lands, are collected in two ways, viz, 1 per thousand as a registration tax, in addition to the regular fee paid the recorder, and 2 per hundred as a special contribution tax. These taxes amounted in 1897 to $287,390; in 1898, $276,720; in 1899, $315,120; in 1890, $300,620; in 1900, $338,620; in 1902, $316,300; in 1903, $351,460; in 1904, $381,190; in 1905, $364,970, and in 1906 to $378,570. In 1887 the amount of the tax derived by the Government from the same source was $127,480, as compared with $378,570 in 1906. As there has been but a slight advance in the price of lands during the last ten years, this comparison indicates a large increase in the number of titles transferred and of mortgages executed. All expenses incurred by the Government in connection with the registration of titles to lands are borne by the parties in interest.

GUATEMALA.

TRADE CONDITIONS IN THE REPUBLIC.

A report prepared by the French Chargé d'Affaires in Guatemala shows that the countries having the largest share of the trade of Guatemala are Germany, England, and the United States. The following table gives the imports from different countries during 1905 and 1906:

	1905.	1906.
United States	$3,067,018.71	$3,037,796.93
England	1,570,114.26	1,533,809.26
Germany	1,408,509.39	1,661,895.49
France	269,474.24	374,317.60
Mexico	111,779.33	46,246.19
Belgium	101,229.45	147,215.89
Spain	86,313.84	119,317.00
Italy	83,290.60	112,348.30
South America	58,408.46	23,995.64
Japan and China	54,793.76	87,047.03
Central America	27,149.49	49,083.87

Cotton goods formed 28.80 per cent of the articles imported; canned goods, wines and liquors, 17.19 per cent; machinery and material for railways, 14 per cent.

The imports of railway material increased from $93,811.25, in 1905, to $467,902.24, in 1906, or an increase of $347,090.99, due to the construction of the railroad line connecting Guatemala with Puerto Barrios on the Atlantic.

A comparison of the exports of the principal articles for these two years gives the following results:

	1905.	1906.
Coffee, cleaned ..... quintals..	507,639.71	483,179.94
Coffee, in husks ..... do....	378,970.71	251,538.22
Hides ..... do....	10,673.44	14,028.40
Rubber ..... do....	3,680.46	3,881.06
Wood ..... cubic feet..	4,386,614.00	3,568,742.00
Bananas ..... bunches..	409,413.00	516,996.00
Sugar ..... quintals..	32,598.92	15,729.22

The decreased value of the exports in 1906 is due to the fall in exchange.

The principal markets were: For coffee, Germany, representing 55.45 per cent; United States, 29.08 per cent; England, 12.86 per cent. Then follow Chile, Austria, Spain, with 1 per cent. France does not figure on account of its duties. For rubber, Germany, representing 76 per cent; United States, 12.45 per cent. For woods, United States, 59.29 per cent. For hides, Germany, 86.46 per cent. For sugar, Canada, 49.14 per cent; United States, 37.96 per cent; Japan, 12.84 per cent.

Bananas are all shipped to the United States.

The following table shows the value of Guatemalan exports to the principal countries during 1905 and 1906:

	1905.	1906.
Germany	$4,087,643.46	$3,819,767.14
United States	2,875,335.35	2,159,880.87
England	1,050,487.39	864,991.64
Mexico	63,307.17	64,696.36
South America	45,711.46	65,251.67
Austria-Hungary	37,088.84	55,516.02
Spain	9,275.16	37,087.05
Italy	17,788.28	3,233.72
Central America	7,637.92	4,578.63
Other countries	27,283.57	30,325.65

The principal articles exported by the United States into Guatemala consist of wire fencing, electrical apparatus, rice, household utensils, glassware, dried codfish, dried and smoked meats, cinnamon bark, California wines, flour, tallow, grease, bacon, potatoes, shoes, ticking, canned goods, peltry, coal, soap, hardware, paints, powder, musical instruments, chemical and pharmaceutical products, felt

and other hats, cotton and printed goods, horseshoes, iron piping, agricultural implements, building iron, machinery, run by horse or water power, railroad material.

With the opening of the Northern Railroad which connects Guatemala with the Atlantic, Puerto Barrios will increase greatly in importance, especially for the import trade. Coffee will always be shipped by the ports of San Jose, Guatemala, Champerico, and even Ocos, but they will only receive merchandise from San Francisco, Mexico, and, in small quantities, from South American countries bordering on the Atlantic, while the transit by the Isthmus of Panama will become insignificant.

Guatemala produces an average of from 700,000 to 800,000 quintals of coffee yearly, and in exceptional years the production reaches a million quintals. A bag of coffee of 100 Spanish pounds is worth from $7 to $10. On leaving the country it pays a duty of 1 *peso* gold, collected by the Government, plus 75 *centavos* gold for transportation to the port of San Jose, and 2 *francs* for shipping and mole duties. If to this amount are added the commission of the seller, the amount of the maritime for freight and insurance, a sum of from 10 to 12 *francs* per quintal is reached.

Wheat is cultivated, especially in Chimaltenango, Huelmetenago, Quezaltenango, Quiche, San Marcos, Solola, and Totonicapam, representing 150,000 quintals, which do not half supply the native consumption; corn and beans form the principal nourishment of the natives, though the cultivation of these articles is decreasing. Rice is cultivated in all the departments having a warm and damp climate, but in quantities as yet too small to supply the demand. The same can be said of potatoes, which have to be imported, although their cultivation in the cooler regions has slightly increased. Sarsaparilla and vanilla are grown and cotton is cultivated in small quantities only, in spite of the fact that certain advantages are granted by the Government to cultivators, although certain lands are suited to it and some successful attempts have been made. The tobacco raised is not of high grade and its cultivation in Chiquimula, Coban, Jutiapa, and Zacapa is restricted, notwithstanding premiums granted by the Government. Fruits, principally bananas, are cultivated by the United Fruit Company in the Department of Izabel, to be sent to New Orleans; rubber growing enjoys certain premiums; Guatemalan cacao is of superior quality and is consumed everywhere in the country, although it is 50 per cent dearer than the imported cacao. The cultivation of sugar cane is one of the most important industries in the country, if one judges by the number of fincas where it is cultivated, which number about 1,300, and cover an area of more than 15,000 hectares.

There are many mines in Guatemala, but the few that have been developed have been done so in a very primitive manner. In the

west are to be found mines that have for a long time been worked by the Indians. In the eastern part of the country are mines of zinc, lead, copper, and silver, which with the opening of the Northern Railroad and the line connecting Zacapa with the frontier of Salvador will become a source of great wealth to the country. The lack of good means of transportation and the consequent high price for transporting the metals has greatly hindered the development of the mining industry.

The eastern part of the Republic is rich in zinc and lead. In the central part the beds of the Motagna and Polychic rivers contain gold-bearing sands, while on the northern coast around Santo Tomas are found good coal mines which have not yet been developed. Around Quezaltenango quicksilver is found and the Indians extract a small quantity, but only for local needs. There are also found opals, quartz, amethyst, talcum, sulphur, alum, and mica of very good quality.

The laws of the country are favorable to the mining industry, granting to the one who denounces properties exemption from any tax for their exploitation, the only obligation being the payment of an indemnity to the owner of the land where the mine is found, but the industry is as yet in its infancy.

The native inhabitants are not lacking in ideas or ability, as can be seen in the various enterprises in which they have been employed, and many of the articles made by them can compete with those of foreign make.

Among the native industries may be mentioned the cotton factory of Cantel, near Quezaltenango, which employs 250 hands and consumes from 8,000 to 10,000 quintals of cotton yearly; the Central American brewery, the most important in Guatemala, which employs 250 workmen and makes beer from Chilean barley and Bavarian hops; a small brewery situated near Quezaltenango, several mineral water factories, sugar cane mills, factories for drying and polishing coffee, a shoe factory, and furniture factory, run by steam near Quezaltenango.

There is an important tannery in the city of Antigua, but the article produced is not of very good quality. Other tanneries have been attempted, but with little success.

There is also a factory for ordinary and medical soaps, as well as for toilet waters made from alcohol, which give satisfactory results.

The native weaving consists of nohipils, cortes (skirts), small napkins, and aprons.

The city of Guatemala is lighted by two electrical plants, one of which is established at the gates of the city and the other 10 leagues away. The light is expensive, costing about 12 pesos a month, or about 5 francs per lamp of 16 candlepower.

BRIDGE OVER THE ULUA RIVER, NEAR POTRERILLOS, HONDURAS. THE RIVER JOINS THE ATLANTIC OCEAN AT THE GULF OF HONDURAS.

HONDURAS.

REPORT OF THE NEW YORK AND HONDURAS ROSARIO COMPANY.

The official report of the New York and Honduras Rosario Company as published in "The Mining World" for February 15, 1908, concerning the exploitation of its mining property in Honduras, shows that during the fiscal year of 1907 there was received from the sale of bullion and concentrates the sum of $899,048, the net profits being $122,329. Adding to this the balance brought forward of $1,283,987, makes a total of $1,406,316, and deducting dividends of $210,000, or 14 per cent for the year, leaves a balance on December 1, 1907, of $1,196,316.

The bullion production from 1882 to 1907 has totaled $13,214,463, and the output for 1907 amounted to 923,538 ounces of silver and 11,950 ounces of gold. The total reserves on November 1, 1907, were 12,000 tons, containing, approximately, 1,168,808 ounces of silver and 10,251 ounces of gold, figured at the rate of 12 cubic feet per ton.

During the year the costs per ton of the 28,098 dry tons of ore crushed were distributed as follows: Mine department, $9.34; tramway and cleaning plant, 87 cents; mill department, $6.09; surface department, $2.27; total, per ton crushed, $18.57.

MEXICO.

FOREIGN COMMERCE, FIRST FIVE MONTHS OF 1907-8.

According to figures issued by the statistical division of the Department of Finance and Public Credit of the Mexican Republic, the total value of imports received during the first five months of 1907–8 (July–November, 1907), was 103,403,272.82 *pesos* ($51,701,636.41) as compared with 87,947,188.68 *pesos* ($43,973,594.34) in the same months of the previous year, an increase of 15,456,084.14 *pesos* ($7,728,042.07). In the month of November, 1907, the value of imports was 20,604,265.16 *pesos* ($10,302,132.58), which, in comparison with 19,572,488.49 *pesos* ($9,786,244.24) of the same month of 1906, represents an advance of 1,031,776.67 *pesos* ($515,888.33).

The exports were valued at 109,928,021.86 *pesos* ($54,964,010.93), in comparison with 96,141,669.80 *pesos* ($48,070,834.90), during the same period of the fiscal year 1906–7, an increase of 13,786,352.06 *pesos* ($6,893,176.03). The value of products exported during the month of November, 1907, was 23,554,571.60 ($11,777,285.80), showing an increase of 181,893.71 *pesos* ($90,946.85), when compared with 23,372,677.89 *pesos* ($11,686,338.94) for the same month of 1906.

CUSTOMS REVENUES DURING THE FIRST SEVEN MONTHS OF 1907–8.

The total revenue collected by the custom-houses of the Mexican Republic during the first seven months of the fiscal year 1907–8 amounted to 34,695,358.60 *pesos* ($17,347,679.30), as against 30,442,429.57 *pesos* collected during the same period of 1906–7. The sources of revenue were as follows, the figures for 1906–7 being also given for purposes of comparison:

	1907–8.	1906–7.
	Pesos.	*Pesos.*
Import duties	33,318,763.78	29,203,319.31
Export duties	568,778.23	630,713.38
Port duties	807,816.59	608,396.88
Total	34,695,358.60	30,442,429.57

A comparison of these totals shows an increase in favor of 1907–8 of 4,252,929.03 *pesos* ($2,126,464.51).

THE BANKS OF THE REPUBLIC IN 1907.

"*El Economista Mexicano*," of February 15, 1907, publishes a detailed statement of the situation of the legally chartered banks of Mexico on the 31st of December, 1907, from which is taken the following figures:

Of the 34 legally chartered banks of the Republic, the most important one is the National Bank of Mexico, which, out of a total of 760,748,650.71 *pesos* made up from the balances of said institutions, is credited with 302,317,855.87 *pesos*. The other banks referred to are: Bank of London and Mexico, Central Mexican Bank, Mexican Bank of Commerce and Industry, International and Mortgage Bank, Agricultural and Mortgage Bank, Bank of Yucatan, Mercantile Bank of Yucatan, Oriental Bank of Mexico, Bank of Jalisco, Mining Bank, Mercantile Bank of Vera Cruz, Bank of the State of Mexico, Bank of Guanajuato, Bank of Tamaulipas, Mercantile Bank of Monterey, Bank of Nuevo Leon, Bank of Durango, Bank of Coahuila, Bank of Sonora, Occidental Bank of Mexico, Bank of San Luis de Potosi, Bank of Hidalgo, Bank of Oaxaca, Bank of Tabasco, Bank of Campeche, Bank of Morelos, Bank of Queretaro, Bank of Zacatecas, Bank of Michoacan, Bank of Aguscalientes, Bank of Chiapas, Bank of Guerrero, and Commercial and Industrial Loan Bank (Banco Comercial y Refaccionario).

The following table shows the total balance of the above banks on December 31, 1907, the figures for 1906 being also given for purposes of comparison:

	December 31—		Differences in 1907.
	1907.	1906.	
ASSETS.			
Capital to be subscribed for (Central Mexican Bank, Mexican Bank of Commerce and Industry, International and Mortgage Bank, Bank of Zacatecas, and Bank of Guerrero)	*Pesos.* 14,065,945.00	*Pesos.* 7,600,000.00	*Pesos.* + 6,465,945.00
Cash:			
Gold	53,854,896.96	42,217,764.11	+11,637,132.85
Silver	15,963,452.67	22,691,580.92	− 6,728,128.25
Certificates	9,067,589.00	7,649,192.00	+ 1,420,397.00
Securities	185,907,373.26	194,484,864.22	− 8,577,490.96
Loans on personal property	115,685,382.93	105,283,228.22	+10,402,154.71
Loans on real estate	30,007,492.04	23,046,892.45	+ 6,960,599.59
Securities immediately convertible into cash	33,431,010.18	24,512,498.10	+ 8,918,983.83
Bills receivable	294,073,821.22	243,512,026.35	+50,561,794.87
Real estate	8,689,687.45	7,178,039.12	+ 1,511,648.33
Total	760,748,650.71	678,176,085.49	
LIABILITIES.			
Capital	171,600,000.00	158,100,000.00	+13,500,000.00
Reserves	59,736,197.30	54,056,757.20	+ 5,679,440.10
Certificates in circulation	91,475,982.00	97,787,878.00	− 6,311,896.00
Bonds	17,884,800.00	18,867,000.00	− 982,200.00
Sight deposits	37,873,213.42	36,828,228.17	+ 1,044,991.25
Time deposits	30,801,168.31	27,279,380.22	+ 3,521,788.09
Bills payable	351,377,283.68	285,256,841.90	+66,120,441.78
Total	760,748,650.71	678,176,085.49	+82,572,565.22

ESTABLISHMENT OF COLD-STORAGE PLANTS.

The Executive of the Mexican Republic promulgated on the 15th of February, 1908, a contract entered into between the Government and the *Compañía Empacadora Nacional Mexicana* (Mexican National Packing Company) for the establishment in the Republic of 2 cold-storage plants and 4 deposits for the refrigeration, preservation, and management of food products. The minimum amount of capital that the company must invest in these establishments is 200,000 pesos. The concessionaires may, besides, establish other plants or deposits, the approval of the Secretary of Promotion being previously obtained.

ASPHALT DEPOSITS OF THE REPUBLIC.

A British consular report on asphalt deposits in the Republic of Mexico states the production of this article is chiefly confined to the Tuxpam and Tampico districts on the Gulf of Mexico. A considerable amount of development work is being carried on, especially in the Tuxpam district, the product ranking very high in the world's markets. At the present time the demand is in excess of the supply. Small shipments are occasionally made to Europe, with Germany as a principal destination. The average price of Mexican asphalt is about $55 Mexican per ton.

The Tampico product is chiefly the residue from the oil produced by the Mexican Petroleum Company at Ebano, about 40 miles west of Tampico. The distillate of this crude liquid asphalt is used for fuel oil. The Ebano distilling plant has a capacity of about 50 tons

of asphalt per day, but owing to the limited supply of barrels procurable for shipping purposes this quantity has not yet been produced.

There are said to be hundreds of thousands of tons of asphalt in the Tampico and Tuxpam districts, but the production is as yet in its infancy. The demand for asphalt is rapidly increasing throughout the Republic in the larger cities and the next few years will, it is anticipated, witness a great development in this branch of activity.

The completion of the Tuxpam Canal will also greatly simplify the difficulties of transport from the asphalt zones to the port of Tampico.

SILVER BASIS OF THE STAMP AND CUSTOM TAXES, MARCH, 1908.

The usual monthly circular issued by the Department of Finance of the Mexican Republic announces that the legal price per kilogram of pure silver during the month of March, 1908, is $36.62 Mexican currency, according to calculations provided in the decree of March 25, 1905. This price will be the basis for the payment of the stamp tax and customs duties when silver is used throughout the Republic.

STATUS OF THE COTTON INDUSTRY.

The principal cotton-growing section of Mexico is comprised in what is known as the "Laguna district," which includes the southern portion of the States of Chihuahua, Coahuila, Nuevo Leon, Tamaulipas, Durango, Zacatecas, and San Luis Potosi. In this district is produced probably 85 per cent of the cotton grown in the Republic.

The experimental growth of Caravonica cotton, a staple of unusual length and quality, especially adapted to tropical localities, has recently been successfully undertaken in the State of Veracruz.

There are other portions of the Republic well suited to cotton cultivation, such as the States of Chiapas, Veracruz, Puebla, and Morelos, and the coast lands of the States of Oaxaca and Guerrero.

The best cotton authorities, however, estimate the area for 1907 planted in cotton to have been 250,000 acres. The amount of cotton produced in the fiscal year 1903 was 80,779,901 pounds, valued at $3,939,989, United States currency, which is that used throughout this report, and in 1904, 121,062,106 pounds, valued at $7,858,521. There was a shortage in the yield for 1907, which is not expected to exceed 70,000 bales.

The production of the staple in the Republic yields about one-half the amount required for use in her industries. Mexico imports annually a small quantity of Egyptian cotton for use in mercerized weaves. The exports of cotton from the United States to Mexico during the fiscal years 1905, 1906, and 1907 were valued at $3,768,126, $1,620,443, and $36,413, respectively. For the calendar year 1907 total cotton exports from the United States to Mexico were valued

at $856,109. The noticeable falling off in these figures was largely due to the unusually favorable yields of the domestic-grown staple.

The consumption of British cotton goods in Mexico exceeds that of all other foreign countries. During 1906 the United Kingdom exported to Mexico the following: Piece goods—gray $59,863, bleached $809,879, printed $325,028, dyed or of dyed yarn $628,692, total piece goods $1,823,462; other than piece goods $1,507,604; yarn $68,391; grand total $3,399,457. Receipts of piece goods from Great Britain in 1907 were valued at $2,313,665.

According to the latest complete annual industrial statistics, the cotton industry of Mexico in the fiscal year 1905 employed 30,162 persons, operating 678,058 spindles and 22,021 looms, and consumed 68,850,195 pounds of cotton in 128 factories during the year. For 1906, 125 factories were reported in operation and the increase in cotton manufacturing plants in Mexico since that period has been limited. Some few factories may have resumed operations, but others have been closed, so that the factories in operation to-day are practically the same, as regards numbers, as in 1905. There has been little increase in the production of cotton goods in the past few years, consequently the number of employees at the various mills throughout the Republic at present is only slightly larger than for 1905.

The larger percentage of factories in Mexico are employed in the manufacture of cotton yarn and in weaving. Cotton colored tissues are manufactured in 17 factories, and there is at least 1 cotton underwear factory. The estimated sales for 1905 amounted to $25,404,784.

By far the larger number of factories are located in the central States, Puebla leading with 29 mills, in which are operated 113,000 spindles. The State of Vera Cruz contains 11 mills, and the most important cotton manufacturing company is found at Orizaba, which is said to own about one-fifth of the total cotton manufacturing outfit of the Republic. The mills in Orizaba are modern, up-to-date plants, complete in every detail—one of them is said to be one of the largest in the world—and of a size which will compare favorably with the cotton establishments in the United States. A good proportion of the raw cotton produced in Mexico is consumed in the mills at Orizaba.

The fiber of the Mexican cotton is of good length and strength, thinner, however, than that of American cotton, less silky, and not so clean. The plant suffers from many pests, among which is the boll weevil, which is said to have been known in Mexico fifty years before it was found in Texas, and is supposed to have migrated thither. The "*conchuela*" is perhaps the most common pest, and of diseases common to the cotton plant, viruela, or cotton smallpox, is prevalent, and annually destroys large quantities of cotton. The

Mexican Government maintains no experimental stations for cotton growth, but information on the best methods of parasite extermination is freely given by the Government to cotton growers.

BALING METHODS.

Mexican cotton is baled according to improved methods. The presses used are heavy, and the cotton is baled under pressure of from 3,000 to 4,000 pounds. There are no central presses in Mexico to receive the cotton from various gins. Each plantation has its own gin and press. Cotton is baled on the premises. Four or five laborers (peons) are employed to a baling press. Square bales are used, generally weighing about 500 pounds, and five 1-inch ties are used to the bale. The ties used are the standard arrow ties, 1 inch in width and 11½ feet long, and weigh 45 pounds to the bundle of 30 ties. They are manufactured principally in Monterey, and cost $1.35 per bundle. Buckles are used in baling, as in the United States. Gunnies are made of ixtle, the native Mexican fiber, and are manufactured in the cotton-raising vicinity.

Cotton is bought and sold by net weight in Mexico, and on the invoice a discount is made on the gross weight for the tare.

COTTON-SEED PRODUCTS.

Cotton-seed products in Mexico are becoming more and more a commercial proposition. Many manufactories exist in various sections of the Republic where the cotton seed is used; the chief products of which are soap, glycerin, cotton-seed oil, cotton-seed meal, and cotton-seed meal cakes. The cotton-seed meal is used, as in other countries, as a food for fattening stock for market.

At Gomez Palacio, in the State of Durango, is situated the largest factory using cotton seed in Mexico; soap, glycerin, and cotton-seed oil being here manufactured in large quantities. Such factories, of more or less importance, are found in many sections of Mexico, and the rapidly growing industry is fast becoming a prominent one.

The following statement shows the exports from the United States to Mexico of cotton-seed products during the fiscal years 1902–1907, and the exports of cotton-seed meal and cake from Mexico during 1902–1906:

Year.	Exports from United States to Mexico.		Exports of cotton-seed meal and cake from Mexico.	Year.	Exports from United States to Mexico.		Exports of cotton-seed meal and cake from Mexico.
	Oil.	Cake and meal.			Oil.	Cake and meal.	
			Metric tons.				*Metric tons.*
1902	$1,069,741	$967	8,235	1905	$692,751	$181	13,314
1903	1,068,335	247	8,738	1906	822,161	665	16,210
1904	1,176,996	2,858	9,871	1907	1,008,381	.....	.....

The greater number of the cotton mills of Mexico are of modern construction and patterned largely after the mills of the United States and continental Europe. As regards equipment, not only the mills of Orizaba, previously mentioned, but practically all the cotton mills in Mexico, are now equipped with modern machinery. Many of the mills have recently abandoned their old machinery for that of later and more modern design, so that it may be safely stated that practically all the cotton mills in the Republic are modern in equipment.

The United States furnishes about one-third of the machinery used in Mexico in the manufacture of cotton goods, the remaining two-thirds, as now employed, coming from England and Germany. The bleaching, dyeing, and printing establishments are usually of modern construction and equipped with all up-to-date appliances. Motive power is supplied by steam, water, and electricity. Steam is very largely used, but owing to the extension of electric power in nearly every portion of the country, electricity is coming more and more into general use and is gradually supplanting steam and water as a motive power for cotton manufacturing.

The quality of the Mexican cotton goods output is constantly improving. Not only the cheaper grades of cotton prints but many of the finer classes are now manufactured. The output includes cotton sheetings (bleached and unbleached), tickings, linings, drills, mezclillo (mixed gray cloth), shirtings, printed percales, Marseille quilts, cotton napkins, tablecloths, handkerchiefs, and cloths of mixed woolen and cotton. Knitted garments and fleece-lined underwear are manufactured, although this industry is in its infancy.

Unbleached sheetings are manufactured 1½ meters (meter=39.37 inches) in width and 28 to 30 meters to the bolt; domestic unbleached, 60, 65, 70, 75, and 80 centimeters (centimeter=0.3937 inch) in width, 25 to 30 meters to the bolt; bleached sheetings 1½, 1¾, and 2 meters in width, 45 to 50 meters to the bolt; domestic bleached, 60, 65, 70, 75, and 80 centimeters in width, 42 to 50 meters to the bolt. Drills are woven 1 meter 60 centimeters wide, and in lengths of 45 meters; percales, 77 centimeters wide, in lengths of 35 meters.

SHOE AND LEATHER TRADE.

The boot and shoe industry is in its infancy in Mexico, according to a report made on the subject by A. B. Butman, special agent of the United States Department of Commerce and Labor. There are not more than 10 or 12 modernly equipped factories in the Republic, 3 of which are situated in Mexico City, 1 in Tacubaya, a suburb of the capital, and the remainder in Puebla, the capital of the State of the same name, which adjoins the Federal district; Guadalajara, the capital of the Pacific coast State of Jalisco; Mazatlan, an important Pacific coast city of Sinaloa; Parral, in the State of Chihuahua, and

Saltillo, in the adjoining State of Coahuila. Most of these factories, judged from the standpoint of the United States, would be considered small, and their output as ranking accordingly. The output of the largest factory is about 2,000 pairs a day, of the second largest 1,000 pairs a day, while the remainder turn out from 50 to 450 pairs a day each. Numerous small shops are found in all localities, where a few workmen are employed in manufacturing shoes to order and by hand.

The exports of boots and shoes from the United States to Mexico for the fiscal years 1904–1907 were as follows:

Year.	Pairs.	Value.	Year.	Pairs.	Value.
1904	496,183	$786,502	1906	848,398	$1,529,364
1905	683,840	1,116,598	1907	810,859	1,569,321

American upper leathers are employed in Mexican shoe industries, together with those of native tanning. The values of exports of upper and other leathers from the United States to Mexico for the fiscal years ended June 30, 1904–1907, were as follows:

Description.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.
Sole leather	$19,097	$3,049	$789	$983
Kid, glazed	3,987	1,679	3,270	22,248
Patent or enameled	1,812	1,602	630	299
Splits, buff, grain, and all other upper	26,936	36,807	39,171	30,986
All other leather	29,827	36,989	45,592	42,391
Total	81,659	80,126	89,452	96,907

Harness and saddles were exported from the United States to Mexico to the value of $44,798, $78,664, $81,427, and $95,422, respectively, during the same years. A certain amount of high-grade saddlery and harness is annually imported from England and France.

It will be noted that very little American sole leather is used, this stock being largely Mexican, as the cost of production in Mexico is much less than in the United States.

The duty on leather and leather goods entering Mexico is as follows per legal kilo (2.2046 pounds): Soft tanned skins, 79.68 cents; sole leather, 49.8 cents; harness, etc., 99.6 cents; traveling bags and trunks, 99.6 cents; belting for machinery, 27.4 cents; gloves and similar articles, 74.7 cents to $2.99. Shoes, according to the dimensions of the sole, per pair, 34.9 cents to 87.15 cents.

Small tanneries exist in most of the cities and towns, although the tanning and leather trade of the Republic is chiefly centered in Mexico City and Leon. It is customary, also, on many haciendas throughout the country to conduct tanning operations to such an extent as to provide from the hides and skins produced on the place all leather needed by the laborers. These domestic enterprises can

not be properly regarded as commercial tanneries and do not produce leather suitable for the leather trade.

Cascalote is the national tanning material, being used throughout the Republic, and is exported in large quantities. Toluca is the most important point of distribution of this valuable product, the towns of Iguala, Zitacuaro, Morelia, Patzcuaro, and Uruapan dealing in the same to lesser extent. The city of Leon consumes about 13,250 pounds of cascalote daily, at a cost varying from 7 to 7¼ cents per 2.2 pounds. The price in Mexico City is $54 a ton. The State of Guerrero supplies over 500 tons of cascalote annually, and the output could be greatly increased. As the cascalote regions become more carefully cultivated there is a tendency, I am informed, to destroy the cascalote trees without looking to their replacement in the untillable areas. This would seem a serious mistake, inasmuch as cascalote is bound to become one of the most valuable of the natural resources of the districts producing it.

Sole leather is the principal product of Mexican tanneries, but a considerable amount of upper and harness leather is produced. There is also considerable output of mediocre morocco, or glazed kid, made from the "*cabretta,*" or hair sheepskins, so common in Mexico. Several tanneries are also making a small amount of enameled leather on cowhide, coltskin, and pigskin. It is mostly of an inferior quality.

Statistics are not available as to the production of hides for the entire Republic, and only the official data as to the export are to be had. The output of the tanneries of the Federal district of Mexico and of the city of Leon, which are the chief points of leather manufacture of the country, can be determined. In these 2 markets there are tanned daily about 600 large hides and about 800 throughout the rest of the country, making an annual total of about 400,000, at least, or 110,000,000 pounds. There are probably at present about 26,500,000 pounds of this rawhide tanned in Mexico annually, which produce, under present methods, barely 12,125,000 pounds of manufactured leather.

One of the most prominent dealers in live stock in the Republic furnishes the following information concerning the approximate number of hides and skins produced annually in Mexico: Goatskins, 2,000,500, weighing 20 pounds a dozen and valued at 65 cents per 2.2 pounds; beef hides, 2,000,000, weighing 46 pounds each and valued at 20 cents per 2.2 pounds; sheepskins, 1,000,000, weighing 26½ pounds a dozen and valued at 40 cents per 2.2 pounds.

The following statistics showing the exports of hides and skins from Mexico for the fiscal years 1904, 1905, and 1906 are taken from the *"Boletín Estadistica Fiscal:"*

Description.	Quantities.			Value.		
	1904.	1905.	1906.	1904.	1905.	1906.
	Pounds.	*Pounds.*	*Pounds.*			
Cattle hides	12,133,678	13,122,784	15,690,317	$1,252,848	$1,444,726	$1,511,620
Goatskins	5,798,794	5,932,945	7,099,221	1,785,177	1,810,270	2,158,948
Sheepskins	452	1,254	16,884	342	100	5,950
Deerskins	627,285	583,359	636,758	173,244	163,651	185,548
Lizardskins	263,541	191,022	131,071	46,227	41,304	25,570
Pigskins	35,024	28,417	50,243	3,511	3,358	6,712
Unclassified	7,597	34,964	186,941	2,611	4,676	18,940
Total	18,866,371	19,894,745	23,811,435	3,263,960	3,468,085	3,913,288

THE SUGAR INDUSTRY.

For the purpose of protecting and advancing the sugar industry in Mexico, a presidential decree went into effect as a law at midnight February 15, 1908, raising the duty on common sugar, candy sugar, and refined sugar of all kinds, to 5 cents for each kilo (2.2 pounds), gross weight. The duty formerly prevailing was 2½ cents a kilo.

The most important sugar mill in Morelos, the center of the industry, is at Teuxtepango, which handles the cane for the surrounding country, as well as that grown on the owner's hacienda, or plantation. About 3,750 tons are estimated as likely to be turned out during the present season.

On February 1, the plant of The Mexican National Sugar Refining Company was put into operation at El Portero, in the State of Vera Cruz, which will have a daily capacity of 125,000 pounds of sugar. The company, which is composed of American capitalists, has constructed a modern plant, equipped with the most up-to-date sugar-making machinery, from the United States.

For the fiscal year 1900, the production of sugar in Mexico was estimated at 75,000 tons, while the production for 1906 reached 107,500 tons. The production for the present season will probably be, according to the present estimates, about the same quantity. A lack of rainfall in some sections prevented what had been previously estimated as a record cane crop.

The falling off in exports for 1906, which represented in value about $2,500,000 United States currency, was due to the sugar crisis affecting the American and European markets. The effects of this abnormal decline were modified in a degree to the Mexican planter by the increased domestic demand sufficient to maintain lucrative prices for his product.

A great deal of land in Mexico is suited to cane growing, and it is doubtless due to the primitive methods of cultivation and manufacture employed, as well as the former difficulties in the way of trans-

portation, that the Republic has not entered more largely into the sugar export trade. Great fertility of soil abounds in the Gulf States, and the rainfall is ample, being estimated at about 100 inches annually. In the inland State of Morelos, however, where the largest quantity of sugar is produced, irrigation is necessary, as is also true of cane lands on the Pacific coast. Lands on the elevated levels will yield less than the lowlands. From 25 to 45 tons of cane an acre is an average yield on the elevated plantations and from 40 to 60 tons in the tropical lands. Replanting is necessary more often in the highlands than in the lowlands, where every seven or eight years is sufficient. The cane grows to a large size, especially in the Gulf States region, and crushed at full maturity yields a density of from 9° to 11½° Baumé.

GOAT REARING IN THE REPUBLIC.

The present market conditions of the goat-rearing industry of the Mexican State of Durango, as reported by United States Consul CHARLES M. FREEMAN, show that the year 1907 was, on account of the extended and sharp drought in this part of Mexico, one of the poorest in many years for those engaged in goat raising. For that reason a person contemplating an investment in that business in this State can buy goats, either fat or thin, at greatly reduced figures from the usual price. The average price in Mexican currency ($1 of which is worth 49.8 cents American) is from $3 to $4.60 each for fat and from $2 to $3 for thin goats. At present fat goats can be bought for $2.75, and the best thin ones for $2.

Goat hides are selling for $1 per kilo (2.2 pounds). The usual price is about $1.75. On account of the financial conditions prevailing in the United States, which is the market to which all goatskins are exported from this consular district, the price has dropped. Only one firm is buying. The lack of feed compels breeders to kill or sell at the best obtainable prices. The two conditions which breeders have had to meet, namely, the drought and the closing of the hide market, makes an opportunity for a person contemplating an investment in the business.

Goat herders are paid $10 per month and rations, the latter costing about $7 more. Kids are dropped once each seven months and the average per 1,000 nannies is about 1,300 every seven months. Of the kids dropped 90 per cent are saved by careful herders. Land suitable for breeding goats is not, so far as can be learned, on the market for lease. There are several tracts of land in this vicinity which are called good goat land for sale, but none containing 500,000 acres. In usual years the tallow obtained from the goats killed pays for all expenses of raising. The hides and meat may be considered profit. Tallow is worth 35 cents per kilo.

NEW CONSULATES IN CENTRAL AMERICA.

The Mexican Congress has approved the recommendation of the Department of Foreign Relations concerning the establishing of new consulates in Central America, and the following consuls have been appointed by the Department: Sr. Fidel Rodríguez Parra, Consul in Guatemala; Sr. Juan B. Delgado, Consul-General in Nicaragua; Sr. José M. Chaparro, Consul-General in Costa Rica; Sr. José Manuel Gutiérrez Zamora, Consul-General in Honduras, and Sr. Bernardo Ceballos, Consul-General in Salvador.

NICARAGUA.

INCREASED ISSUE OF EXPORTATION BONDS.

On February 6, 1908, the Government of the Republic of Nicaragua ordered that the issue of exportation bonds decreed on November 20, 1907, be increased from $75,000 to $400,000 gold, including the amount already issued. The decree of November 20, 1907, was published in the Bulletin for December, 1907.

GUTTA-PERCHA CONCESSION.

The "*Gaceta Oficial*" of Nicaragua of January 28, 1908, publishes the text of a contract entered into between the Government and Mr. Rene John La Villebeuvre on the 28th of November, 1907, and approved by the National Legislative Assembly on 18th of December, 1907. By the terms of the contract Mr. La Villebeuvre is granted exclusive privilege for twenty years to extract and manufacture the gum from the gutta-percha trees situated in national lands in the Territory of Cape Gracias a Dios, the district of Prinzapolka, the Department of Jinotega, and that part of the Department of Nueva Segovia situated west of the eighty-sixth meridian. The concessionaire shall pay the Government 2 cents gold per kilogram of gum extracted. All machinery, materials, etc., to be employed in this industry by the concessionaire may be imported free of duty during the period of the contract.

CONCESSION FOR THE EXPLOITATION OF MINERALS AND PRECIOUS STONES.

The National Legislative Assembly of the Nicaraguan Republic approved on January 6, 1908, an important contract entered into between the Government and Mr. Rene John La Villebeuvre on December 6, 1907, and published in the "*Gaceta Oficial*" of January 28, 1908, whereby the Government grants said Mr. La Villebeuvre a lease of all mines, mineral deposits, mines abandoned in accordance with law, lands, streams, river beds, etc., containing

gold, silver, coal, oil, precious stones, and all other kinds of minerals and precious metals; in other words, all that may be included under the term of minerals and precious stones, found in the district of Prinzapolka, Department of Zelaya, in the Siuna and Malis ravines, in the River Banbana up to the point where it meets with the River Banbana Cruz, in the tributaries of the former from their respective headwaters, and in an area extending from said ravines, the Banbana River and its tributaries, with a width of 2½ kilometers on each side of the river bed and the headwaters of its tributaries. Mines claimed previously to the approval of the contract by the Legislative Assembly are excepted. During the term of the contract, the mines exploited by the concessionaire shall be exempt from the payment of taxes, except the license fees prescribed by the mining code; the concessionaire shall have the right to import free of duty all machinery, materials, etc., necessary for the exploitation of the mines, and he shall pay to the Government during the period of contract 10 per cent of the net profits derived from the exploitation of the mines. The concessionaire may establish navigation lines in the Rivers Prinzapolka and Banbana, and construct a railroad, in order to facilitate the proper operation of the mines. The duration of the contract shall be thirty years from the date of its approval by the Legislative Assembly.

DREDGING AND NAVIGATION OF THE RIVER GRANDE.

Under date of December 21, 1907, the National Legislative Assembly of Nicaragua approved a contract entered into between the Government of the Republic and Doctor Jesus Hernandez Somoza on November 30, 1906, and published in the "Gaceta Oficial" of January 21, 1908, for the dredging and deepening of the River Grande at its bar, in order that vessels engaged in the banana trade may enter the river. The concessionaire shall begin the work within one year and complete it within another year from the date of the ratification of the contract by the legislative assembly. The amount of money to be invested in said work shall not be less than $100,000 American gold.

The concessionaire shall establish a line of steamers or gasoline boats, or of both, in said River Grande and its tributaries, and shall construct tramway, telephone, and telegraph lines; the first vessel shall navigate the river within eighteen months after the legislative approval of the contract, and the navigation of the river by the vessels of the concessionaire shall continue during the whole period of the contract. The steamers shall make periodical round trips from the mouth of the river to a point along it. The Government grants the concessionaire the right to acquire 88,000 manzanas (about 138,400 acres) of public land at the rates prescribed by the public

land law of 1902. The concessionaire may introduce immigrants for the colonization and cultivation of the lands he may acquire.

The concessionaire shall construct a warehouse and a wharf in Man of War Cay Island, where the ocean steamers may load and unload cargo while the bar of the river is being dredged and until vessels may enter the river. For reasons of convenience, the Man of War Cay Island, shall be considered as a part of the port of Zelaya.

As a compensation for the services which the farmers and merchants may receive from the concessionnaire, the latter shall have the right to collect a tax of 5 cents on each bunch of bananas, or fraction thereof, shipped for export. The concessionaire may also collect a tax of from $4 to $8 per foot draft of each vessel entering the port. During the period of the contract, the steamers, property, and products of the concessionaire shall be exempt from the payment of taxes, and he shall have the right to import free of duty all machinery, materials, etc., that may be necessary to carry out the provisions of the contract. Mail matter shall be transported free of charge in the steamers of the concessionaire.

The privileges granted under this contract shall be in force for a period of thirty years from the date of its ratification by the legislature. At the end of that period the warehouses and wharfs of the concessionaire shall become the property of the Government, and the steamers, railroads, telephones and telegraphs shall be sold to the same in case it should decide to purchase them. The concessionaire shall make a deposit of $5,000 gold in the general treasury of the Republic within six months after the ratification of the contract by the national assembly.

NEW RAILWAY.

The Government of Nicaragua has contracted with Messrs. CERDA AND MUÑOZ, to organize a company to construct a railroad from the port of San Juan del Sur on the Pacific, through Rivas, and terminating at San Jorge, or at any other port of entry on the Grand Lake. The company shall organize, within six months from the date of the approval of the contract by the president and the ratification by the national assembly, and the new line shall be known as *Compañía del Ferrocarril Meridional* (Southern Railway Company).

The principal stipulations of the contract are as follows:

The company shall make the proper survey for the construction of the railway, shall commence work within thirty days from the date of its notification to the Government of the organization thereof, shall submit plans to the Department of Fomento for approval, and on being approved the construction of the line shall commence.

The company agrees to construct a road of the same gauge as the National Railroad, and to build such stations as may be necessary for passenger traffic, the transportation of merchandise, etc.

As to the grades, curves, gauge of the track and weight of the rails, the company is subject to the rules and regulations observed by the existing railroad, and, in addition, shall construct switches, water tanks, warehouses for wood and coal, shops, etc.

The company agrees to carry the Government mail gratis, as well as the employees engaged in the railway mail service, and to carry for half fare all Government employees traveling in the service of the Government, as well as the agents and guards of the Department of Agriculture and police, prisoners and their guards, troops, arms, and ammunition in time of war.

In the latter case the Government may take over the company on its own account, paying to it an amount equal to the net profit earned in the previous year during the same period of time, and shall also pay such losses and damages as may have been caused to the company, in accordance with the estimate of expert appraisers.

The company shall have the exclusive right to make the railway tariff, which shall not exceed 5 cents gold per mile, for first-class passage, 2½ cents gold per mile for second-class passage, and the maximum freight rate shall be 10 cents gold per ton per mile.

Should the Government decide to grant the exclusive right to construct a railway between Rivas and Granada, the Southern Railway Company shall have the right of preference.

The Government grants the company the right to construct and operate at the railway terminus on the lake, except at the port of San Jose, a wharf with its corresponding warehouse, and the company may establish one or more steamers on the Great Lake for the transportation of passengers and freight and the number of steamers that it may deem advisable on the Pacific for coastwise trade with Central American ports.

On the expiration of thirty years from the date of the inauguration of the railway the Government shall have the right to take possession of the road and its appurtenances, upon payment of the cost of the materials and such construction and improvements as have been subsequently made, or on the payment of the amount fixed by expert appraisement, at the option of the Government, making the payment in bonds drawing 6 per cent annual interest, redeemable in six years by semiannual allotments, and guaranteed by a mortgage on the railroad, or the payment may be made in cash. If the Government does not exercise this right within the term specified, it may, at the expiration of forty years, take possession of the road under the aforesaid conditions with a reduction of 25 per cent, and if it does not desire to use this right it may, at the expiration of fifty years,

take possession of the whole road without the payment of a consideration.

During the term of the concession the aforesaid company shall have the right to import, free of all duties, the materials, appliances, tools, telegraphic and telephonic apparatus and materials, as well as everything it may deem essential for the construction of wharves and warehouses, and also the appliances and materials to be used for the steamers of the company.

The company shall have its principal office in Rivas, and if it transfers its rights to a foreign person or company, the latter shall always maintain its principal office in Nicaragua.

After the opening of the railway to traffic and public service the Government guarantees to the company 7 per cent annual interest on the amount of the capital invested in the entire line.

PANAMA.

FOREIGN TRADE IN 1907.

According to information furnished the MONTHLY BULLETIN by Mr. ISIDORO HAZERA, Secretary of the Treasury of the Republic of Panama, the imports and exports of that country in 1907 were $17,204,983.77 and $1,960,664.92, respectively. The following table shows the imports in 1907 by countries:

United States	$5,196,964.38
England	2,028,112.01
Germany	1,061,858.75
France	334,906.49
Spain	191,908.15
Italy	189,711.75
Belgium	149,765.18
Holland	4,348.00
Hongkong (from Japan and Australia)	97,213.65
West Indies, including Curazao	88,435.39
Chile	60,101.15
Salvador	91,850.00
Ecuador	30,536.31
Venezuela	30,101.20
Gautemala	4,450.00
Peru	4,187.50
Imports from New York to the Canal Zone without the payment of duties	7,640,533.86
Total imports in 1907	17,204,983.77

The following table shows the exports of the Republic in detail in 1907:

From Bocas del Toro:		
Bananas	$1,388,321.75	
Brier wood	14,180.00	
Turtle-shells	8,347.50	
Caoutchouc	8,335.00	
Cacao	2,673.00	
Cocoanuts	1,227.00	
		$1,423,084.25
From Portobelo:		
Cocoanuts	126,046.06	
Vegetable ivory	11,014.00	
Lime, etc	5,279.00	
Milk of the medlar tree	4,704.00	
Turtle-shells	4,690.00	
Cacao	2,950.00	
Woods	200.00	
Caoutchouc	97.00	
Hides	66.00	
		155,046.06
From Panama:		
Sundry products		282,866.66
From Colon:		
Cocoanuts, vegetable ivory, hides, etc		99,667.95
Total exports in 1907		1,960,664.92

A comparison of the exports of 1906, $1,064,201, with those of 1907, $1,960,664.92, shows an increase in the latter year of $842,643.92.

PERU.

CUSTOMS REVENUES DURING 1907.

The maritime custom-houses of the Republic of Peru, collected during the first half of 1907, a total revenue of £513,791 4s. 7d., of which sum £348,226 2s. 73d. are credited to the port of Callao. Mollendo, the second port in importance, is credited with £80,066 3s. 73d.

According to figures published by "*El Auxiliar del Comercio*" of Callao, Peru, in its issue for January 25, 1907, the custom-house of Mollendo collected during the year 1907 a total revenue of £176,564 3s. 40d., as against £160,372 6s. 15d. collected in 1906, an increase of £16,192 7s. 25d. The revenue in 1904 amountd to £135,453 0s. 40d. and in 1905 to £145,364 1s. 82d.

COMMERCE WITH NEW YORK FIRST NINE MONTHS OF 1907.

According to a report of the Peruvian consul-general at New York, the commerce between that port and the Republic of Peru during the first nine months of 1907 was as follows: Imports from Peru into New

York, $4,308,683; exports from Peru to New York, $3,794,093. A comparison of these figures shows that the balance of trade is in favor of Peru, amounting to $514,590.

RECONSTRUCTION OF THE MOQUEGUA RAILROAD.

By virtue of a supreme resolution of January 3, 1908, the Peruvian Government accepted the bid of Mr. M. BUSTAMANTE Y B. for the reconstruction of the Moquegua Railroad at a cost of £23,286, which was the lowest of the 4 presented.

The railroad referred to is that from Ilo to Moquegua; was inaugurated on February 21, 1873, with an extension of 100 kilometers, and destroyed during the war with Chile. At various times attempts were made to carry out the reconstruction of the line, but without success.

In accordance with the contract entered into with Mr. BUSTAMANTE, the delivery to the Government of the completed parts of the line shall be made in sections of 20 kilometers, and the whole line shall be turned over to the Government six months after the last section shall have been delivered. An additional section of 1 kilometer shall be constructed to reach Moquegua. The work of construction shall be finished nine months after the delivery of an engine to the contractor, under penalty of a fine of 10 per cent of the value of the work unfinished at the expiration of said period.

RAILWAY DEVELOPMENT IN 1907 AND 1908.

In a valuable report made to the United States Department of Commerce and Labor under date of January 11, 1908, Mr. CHARLES M. PEPPER states that Peru, notwithstanding monetary conditions, is likely to continue a fair buyer of rails and railway material during 1908, particularly if there is a reduction in the price. Orders given more than a year ago are now being filled and the material is arriving. By the time all of it is delivered the probability is that further material will be demanded, in order to complete extensions and improvements already in progress and possibly to provide for some of the new projects. The prospective purchases include rails, ties, bridge material, and rolling stock. The Peruvian railways are supplied almost entirely from the United States, particularly when locomotives and rolling stock are wanted, and the outlook has therefore a special interest for American manufacturers.

The heaviest buyer is the Peruvian Corporation, of London, which operates the State railways, under lease, and which, through an arrangement with the Government, is carrying out the prolongations and extensions of several of these lines. During 1907 the Peruvian Corporation received 14,000 tons of steel rails, 312,000 ties, and material for 4 bridges of from 85 to 230 feet in length. A large order for locomotives was filled in the previous year.

The Cerro de Pasco Mining Company, which completed and opened its branch line to the Gollarisquisca coal mines, in addition to the rails for that branch was a purchaser of rolling stock, its orders including 2 locomotives, 15 forty-ton steel-hopper coal cars, 25 ore cars, 10 flat cars, 12 gondolas, 10 under frame boxes, and 2 cabooses. Some of these orders have been filled and deliveries are now being made of others. The growth of traffic in the Cerro de Pasco district indicates that further additions to the rolling stock will be required.

The Peruvian Government has undertaken the reconstruction of the line in the south from the port of Ilo to Moquegua, which was partially destroyed in 1881, and was then allowed to be covered over by the drifting sands. The rails were ordered for this reconstruction and part of the material has been delivered to the contractor who this month entered on the work.

Several of the short lines in the north running from the coast back to the Cordillera are being prolonged further into the interior, among them those from Pacasmayo and Salaverry. Rails and material for these prolongations are included in the purchases of the Peruvian Corporation. It is possible that these extensions will be continued and additional material be called for when the present work is finished. A short line is also likely to be built from Tumbes—though no contracts have yet been made for rails and materials for it.

When the prolongation of the Central Railway from Oroya to Huancayo is completed the extension will be continued to Ayacucho, Congress having authorized it, and by the time this work is ready to be taken up funds will be available for the purpose—though no rails or material have yet been ordered for this extension.

The bulk of the purchases by the Peruvian Corporation, aside from the rails needed for the new lines, has been for relaying the tracks on the Central or Oroya Railway, the main trunk of which from Callao to Oroya is 138 miles in length. The traffic which was developed by the Cerro de Pasco Company, in addition to the ore shipments and the freighting of mining supplies for the mines already in operation, found the Central with very inadequate facilities, and some attempt was made to enlarge them, though not on a commensurate scale. Since the system was placed in charge of the present experienced general manager, and practical railway operation was put in force, a larger volume of freight has been handled with the existing facilities, and the promise is held out that the betterments which are now being made will provide for a further addition to the traffic. Assuming that this is so, it does not follow that the improvements can stop with the heavy purchases of material already made.

Whether the Central Railway be electrified, as proposed, or not, many sections of it must be practically rebuilt and much additional rolling stock be supplied if the stockholders in the Peruvian Cor-

poration expect to secure the return on their investment which is obtainable. The extension being made from Oroya to Huancayo under contract with the Peruvian Government will provide new business, and the increasing traffic from the Cerro de Pasco Mining Company and the other new mining and smelting enterprises has been indicated. The betterment of the physical condition of the line and improvement in operating methods, instead of satisfying the requirements, are more likely to show the need of a complete reconstruction. The difficulty of securing funds in London, where a blanket loan has been proposed, is said to be responsible for the incomplete measures for placing the Central in a position to handle the future traffic which it can command.

One positive step already has been taken for placing the line in a condition to meet traffic requirements. This is the reconstruction of the bridges and the replacement of some of the old ones by new structures. Several of the bridges on the Central are notable among the many marvelous engineering features of this railway, stretching across deep gorges from tunnel to tunnel or from one precipice wall to another precipice wall. Their maintenance always has been a source of deep concern and the weight of the trains passing over them has been carefully calculated. Two years ago when a large number of locomotives were bought in order to provide for the growing traffic it was found that they were too heavy for the bridges to sustain them. A contract was then made with the American Bridge Company to replace the existing bridges, one provision of the contract being that the old structures should be removed and the new ones erected without interrupting the running of the trains. The material is now on the ground, the bridge company's expert workmen are also on hand, and the work is beginning.

On the Southern Railway, which runs from Mollendo to Lake Titicaca, the long bridge and trestle at Arequipa are to be dispensed with by the construction of a loop. Other betterments requiring considerable material also will be made on the Southern.

THE PROPOSED ROAD TO THE AMAZON.

If the terms of the concession granted in 1906 for a railway to the Amazon by the way of Ucayali River were literally complied with, there would be an early demand for a large quantity of steel rails, rolling stock, and other material, since construction was to begin in August, 1908, and the road was to be finished in 1913. Though the concessionaire has a forfeit of $100,000 up it is not expected that this will be exacted if the actual construction is not begun at the date specified, in view of the condition of the money market in the United States where the capital was to be raised. But in view of its importance to the development of Peru, and the provisions already

made, interests financially strong enough to carry out the project are pretty certain to come forward and undertake the construction of this railway.

The concession is for a standard-gage line which, starting from a point between Oroya and Cerro de Pasco on the existing railway, shall terminate at a point on the Ucayali River, suitable for steam navigation all the year round for vessels drawing at least 5 feet. A subsidy of £2,000,000, or approximately $10,000,000, is provided in 6 per cent bonds at par value to be delivered in half-yearly installments and in proportion to the number of kilometers finished in the same half year, the payment of the last installment to be made when the railway reaches the Ucayali. A grant of 7,500 acres of forest lands is also made for each kilometer of the railway built. A further provision is the privilege of placing steamers in all the Peruvian region of the Amazon and its tributaries and a grant of 5,000 acres of land is made for each steamer of 500 tons so placed. The subsidy bonds to be issued are guaranteed by the tobacco imposts, which, under a law passed in 1904, are set aside for railroad purposes. They now range from $900,000 to $1,000,000 annually.

Various projects have been proposed for reaching the affluents of the Ucayali at the small river landings of Puerto Bermudez and Puerto Victoria and the length of the railway line necessary to reach them has been estimated at 225 to 250 miles. The route indicated in the latest concession is known as the Perené, and is said to offer a somewhat better line to the Ucayali. Numerous reconnoissances and horseback surveys of the various routes have been made, but there has been no engineering location yet attempted. The concession requires that the final surveys shall be completed and submitted to the Government by the end of 1908, but this, like other provisions, may be extended.

The purpose of the Peruvian Government in providing for the construction of the line to the Ucayali is both political and commercial. It is desirous of securing prompt and regular communication with its Amazon port of Iquitos and of bringing the rubber product of all that Peruvian region out through Peruvian territory to the Pacific instead of having it go through Brazilian territory to the Atlantic, as is now done. There are, however, commercial advantages much more immediate than those relating to the rubber product. Enormous quantities of timber are required by the Cerro de Pasco and other mines, and with the development of the mines that is now going on the demand is growing. This timber is brought down from Puget Sound to Callao and then shipped over the Central Railway, the ocean and railway freights making it very expensive. Some of the preliminary surveys, it is stated, have shown that large tracts of timber lie along the route to the Ucayali, not more than 60 or 70

miles distant from the existing railway. These and other considerations render it probable that while purchases of rails and material may not be made during the current year, some orders may be given for delivery in 1909.

The Ucayali concession also authorizes a line from the same point on the Cerro de Pasco Railway to a specified point on the coast, and if this line ever should be built there would be through direct communication from the Amazon's tributaries to the Pacific. This line would parallel the Central Railway and would compete with it. Though the Cordilleras would have to be crossed at an elevation equal to that of the Central, or nearly 16,000 feet, it is claimed that many of the engineering obstacles which that railway encounters could be avoided. The subvention for this line to the Pacific is fixed at $475,000, or $2,375,000, in bonds at the rate of $7,500 per kilometer. For reasons unnecessary to detail this project does not receive the same encouragement that is given the line to the Ucayali, though it has some stout advocates, who are said to be willing to engage in it.

The Peruvian treasury has husbanded its resources for railway building prudently, and while a number of paper projects receive consideration, much conservatism is shown in the enterprises actually entered upon. The gold standard is maintained and the loans contracted for railways and other public works have not been large, so that the credit of the Government is good, and if in the future it should seek to supplement the means obtained from the tobacco revenue by a small loan this probably could be obtained. However, such a plan is not now in favor and it is sufficient to know that the Government has the resources available to meet all the obligations that will be incurred in completing the extensions and prolongations now under construction or which have been authorized by the Congress. These measures mean that before the end of the year additional orders are likely to be placed for rails and material. I have already indicated the probability that in spite of the belief that the material now being delivered for the railway system of the Peruvian Corporation and for the Cerro de Pasco Company is sufficient, both these companies will be calling for additional material before another year begins. The 3 chief prospective purchases of railway material in Peru are stated in the memorandum which I forward to the Bureau of Manufacturers.

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY, SAN SALVADOR, WHICH EMBRACES SCHOOLS OF LAW, MEDICINE AND SURGERY, CIVIL ENGINEERING, AND PHARMACY.

SALVADOR.

EXPORTS DURING THE FIRST NINE MONTHS OF 1907.

The total value of the exports during the first nine months of 1907 from Salvador was 13,703,193.10 *colones*, on which an export duty of 656,813.62 *colones* was collected by the Treasury.

The exports of the Republic were made to Germany, Austria-Hungary, Belgium, Denmark, Spain, France, Holland, Great Britain, Italy, English Possessions in America, Mexico, United States, and the Republics of Central and South America.

The articles exported consisted of starch, indigo, sugar, balsam, copper ores, coffee, horse hair, horns of cattle, alligator, cat, and deer skins, wheat and rice flour, rubber, rope, printed books, mahogany, cedar and mulberry woods, marble, honey, gold in bars, raw sugar, mats, gold, silver and lead ores, cotton and silk mufflers, ready-made clothing, straw hats, manufactured, leaf, and fine cut tobacco, and stearin candles.

The wholesale trade of Salvador is in the hands of foreigners—Americans, French, Germans, English, Spanish, and Italians—who, with central houses in San Salvador, and agencies in the more important cities of the Republic, have the trade well in hand, as most of them have been established for years, and understand and cater to the demands of the retail trade. The wholesale trade is supplied largely from the countries of origin of the owners of the stores—the French from Paris, the Germans from Hamburg, etc.—and only such purchases are made from other countries as can be supplied at less price and more conveniently. There are two large American houses which purchase in New York and San Francisco, all things being equal.

From present indications, there will be a marked decrease in the value and quantity of products exported from Salvador to the United States, as shippers of hides and rubber have commenced to ship to Hamburg instead of to New York, claiming that better prices and quicker sales are secured in the former than in the latter port.

Coffee shipments to San Francisco will be less this season than in past years, as the crop is only about 50 per cent of that of last year. The market for Salvador coffee has been enlarged of late years, at the expense of former distributing points. Hamburg was the distributing port for northern Europe, and Havre and Marseille for Italy and Austria, but now the merchants of Sweden, Norway, Holland, Belgium, Genoa, and Trieste buy direct, thus saving on transportation charges and avoiding the commission and rehandling costs.

The following table shows the value of the exports made to foreign countries, through the ports of the Republic, during the first nine months of 1907:

Country.	Value.	Country.	Value.
	Colones.		*Colones.*
Germany	2,339,651.57	Hawaii	1,530.00
English possessions in America	42,883.00	Holland	4,630.00
Austria-Hungary	745,224.00	Honduras	139,217.67
Belgium	1,200.00	Italy	1,524,917.81
Brazil	10,000.00	Mexico	78,500.00
Costa Rica	35,018.01	Nicaragua	8,107.63
Chile	43,170.40	Norway	91,131.90
Denmark	302.00	Panama	259,967.80
Ecuador	38,550.00	Peru	41,413.00
Spain	432,326.51	Russia	13,770.00
United States	4,365,723.04	Sweden	269,025.00
France	2,587,141.53		
Great Britain	625,313.76	Total for first nine months of 1907	13,703,193.10
Guatemala	4,478.47		

The following were the principal articles of export during the same period:

Articles.	Value in colones.	Articles.	Value in colones.
Coffee	10,382,059.42	Lead bullion and ore	11,650.00
Gold in bars	1,452,021.00	Straw hats	9,031.00
Gold and silver ores	888,656.75	Mahogany, cedar, and mulberry woods	7,772.00
Sugar	380,017.50	Miscellaneous articles	74,882.09
Indigo	195,224.65		
Balsam	130,275.00	Total for the first nine months of 1907	13,703,193.00
Oxhides	87,217.92		
Tobacco	45,089.24		
Rubber	39,296.63		

THE TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE SERVICE IN 1907.

The Central Bureau of Telegraphs, Telephones, and Cables of the Salvadorean Republic has published recently the following figures relating to the service in 1907, as compared with 1906: The total revenues in 1906 amounted to 123,793.98 *colones* ($61,896.99), and in 1907 to 127,243.75 *colones* ($63,621.87), or an increase of 3,449.77 *colones* ($1,724.88). The expenditures in 1906 amounted to 123,748.08 *colones* ($61,874.04), while in 1907 they were only 111,185.27 *colones* ($55,092.63), the decrease being therefore 12,562.81 *colones* ($6,481.40).

In spite of the fact that several economies were introduced during the last year, the general movement of the service was very satisfactory.

MINING IN SALVADOR.

The development of the mineral industry in the Republic of Salvador—dating back to the sixties, when the results were less than $100,000 per year—fluctuated during the following twenty years, when it reached about a quarter of a million dollars per annum. In

1901 the exports amounted to $457,500, which two years later (1903) reached a total of $2,036,825.69, and in 1906 they were as follows:

Mineral concentrates (gold and silver)	$204,647.00
Gold in bars	1,341,791.00
Gold	702,871.00
Gold ingots	441,850.00
Gold and silver bars	89,286.00
Auriferous silver	283,264.00
Silver bars	2,376.00
Gold concentrates	14,960.00
Gold and silver concentrates	136,310.00
Copper and gold concentrates	24,310.00
Total	3,241,665.00

The consul of Salvador at New York, Mr. Ernest Schernikow, has furnished the International Bureau of the American Republics with the following translation from the *"Diario Oficial"* of December 26, 1907, of a valuable treatise on the subject of the mineral resources of the Republic:

"It is well known that the soil of Salvador holds many varied and rich minerals, and only recently has attention been given to this important industry, and some of its mines are now being exploited.

"The object of the present article is not to treat of the mineral history of Salvador, because this would involve too large an article, but rather to give an exact idea of the flourishing condition it is in to-day and the splendid results obtained in recent years. In order to appreciate these with true value, it is necessary to make retrospective comparisons, which reveal the astounding march of this industry and how it is rapidly gaining in importance.

"Excluding the low coast country, the entire interior of the Republic is rich in minerals, and principally the departments of Santa Ana (western mining district), Chalatenango and Cabanas (central mining district), and Morazan, San Miguel, and La Union (eastern mining district).

"The region of Metapan, in the department of Santa Ana, is justly famous, being called the 'La Vizcaya Salvadoreña,' owing to its abundant veins of iron, copper, lead, and auriferous silver, the first mentioned being practically inexhaustible and of superior quality.

"Iron is daily reduced to metal by the Messrs. Luna in their two plants of 'San José' and 'San Miguel,' by using the old catalan system, which is poor in its results.

"The most notable copper plant is the old 'El Brujo,' the ores of which contain quite a quantity of gold and silver.

"This region has the advantage of a good cart road between the cities of Metapán and Santa Ana, about 56 kilometers apart; however, if the project be realized of uniting the Salvador side with that of the

railroad of Guatemala, or if a branch were constructed, it would give an immense impetus to the mining industry of the western district, destined to be a very rich emporium.

"In the Department of Chalatenango and Cabanas the mining industry is in its incipiency, the principal and richest being that owned and worked in Chalatenango by Mr. GUSTAVO LOZANO.

"A good cart road has been opened, which facilitates the moving of the products of this district via San Salvador, in order to take advantage of the railroad which unites this capital with the port of Acajutla.

"The principal mines of the Department of Cabanas are:

"La Electricidad, of copper; Fichán and Los Amates, both of copper, all 3 belonging to Dr. SANTIAGO GONZÁLES. Santa Margarita, Santa Angela, La Quebrada, San Francisco, and El Zanjo, all of copper, and belonging to Mr. GUSTAVO LOZANO; this gentleman also owns a mine of bioxide of manganese.

"In the Department of Cabanas and in the jurisdiction of San Isidro, are the veins of San Enrique, Cola de Toro, Companero, Cerro de Avila, and Pepita de Oro; the last mentioned being noted for its richness, the ore running $15 gold per ton, the ore being of porous quartz.

"To the southwest of Sesuntepeque are the mines of El Porvenir of silver and gold.

"The mines of San Fernando, Obrajito, El Dorado, and San Juan are also known.

"In the Department of Morazan the following mines exist: El Divisadero, belonging to an English company. This company also owns the mines known as La Protectora, El Bosque, Carolina, El Gavilán, etc. Loma Larga, producing gold and silver, is now being worked, and to which belong El Nance, Orito, Los Santos, San Francisco, El Pique de la Señora, El Socorro, La Perla, and others.

"Margarita, silver and gold, Montecristo, gold, El Carrizal, gold, La Veta del Gigante, gold and silver, Nueva Virginia, and various others, all in the jurisdiction of San Carlos and of Yamabal.

"In the Department of La Union is the mining district of San Sebastian, one of the richest and best exploited in these countries, belonging to an English company. The ore is pyritic, and worked by the cyanide process.

"El Tabanco mine, belonging to a French company, is rich in gold. Besides this, there are other mines, such as San Bortolo, gold and silver, belonging to an American company; and Copetillos, also of gold and silver.

"The mines La Poza, El Consuelo, Guadalupe, Hormiguero, La Rivera, Gallardo, Esperanza, Potosi, Porvenir, are all situated in the Department of San Miguel, and rich in gold.

"With the preceding brief enumeration of the principal mining centers, a better idea may be obtained of the progress of the mining industry in El Salvador by a study of the statistics showing the annual production and export during the past forty years.

"In 1864, it may be said that the mining industry was in its infancy, the period preceding this it only having flourished indifferently. This period of infancy continued until 1875, in which year it assumed some importance. Below are given the modest values of ores mined and exported from the ports of Salvador from 1864 to 1875, the value being in pesos:

1864	$556.00	1871	$7,180.00
1865	40,825.90	1872	1,700.00
1866	19,827.00	1873	8,300.00
1867	33,150.00	1874	4,200.00
1868	39,969.00	1875	54,559.75
1869	22,400.00		
1870	(No record.)	Total	232,667.65

"As will be seen, in twelve years the total amount exported is scarcely 7 per cent of the value exported in 1906 ($3,041,665.00).

"From 1876 to 1895, the mining industry began to expand, the production being principally silver and not much gold. In the following three tables is sufficient data to show the successive development of the industry during the twenty years, 1876 to 1895:

1876–1879.

	Ores.	Silver and gold.
1876	$157,732.36	$13,248.00
1877	56,601.92	142,466.00
1878	71,951.20	155,000.00
1879	67,227.80	112,543.75

Total value, $778,771.03.

1881–1883.

	Ore.	Silver.	Gold.
1881	$45,343.50	$105,437.00	.....
1882	121,976.25	82,058.00	.....
1883	[a] 39,630.00	89,454.16	$6,844.00

[a] Silver ore.

Total value, $1,090,742.91.

1886–1895.

1886	$40,772.70	$149,645.00	.....
1887	10,292.27	229,356.25	$65,439.00
1888	.....	171,313.00	38,000.00
1889	10,982.00	171,264.00	.....
1890	2,100.00	204,747.00	.....
1891	45,013.00	181,445.65	.....
1892	15.00	149,872.00	.....
1893	.....	103,000.00	.....
1894	27,850.00	58,464.00	.....
1895	730.00	20,360.00	210.00

Total value, $1,682,570.87.

"In 1895 the mining industry suffered notable depression; soon it recovered a progressive impulse and, from 1901 it daily improved, so much so that during 1906 the total value of metals exported exceeded three million pesos, principally in gold. The details of annual production during past six years is shown in following tables:

Year.	Ores.	Silver.	Gold.	Total value.
1901	$309,074.00	[a] $9,910.00 [b] 78,899.00 [c] 8,050.00	$53,467.00	$457,500.00
1902	283,463.00		4,000.00	287,463.00
1903	[e] 1,935,759.77	[d] 19,588.02 [e] 1,350.00 49,993.35	30,143.55	2,036,825.69
1904	[a] 1,501,000.00 [f] 601.20	[d] 56,538.58 [b] 57,869.00	16,127.06	1,632,135.84
1905	902,506.00	[d] 139,420.00 [b] 227,200.00	652,568.00	1,912,694.00

[a] Metal. [b] Crude. [c] Bars. [d] Auriferous. [e] Silver and gold. [f] Copper.

GOVERNMENT CONTROL OF CARTRIDGES.

In accordance with legislative decree of October 1, 1892, and the rules and regulations of December 5 of the same year, the president has issued the following orders:

"1. On and after March 1, 1908, cartridges for firearms shall be sold in the offices of the treasury and at other authorized places, by and for account of the treasury.

"2. Three months after the date referred to, merchants and private persons are prohibited from selling cartridges, and all persons having supplies on hand at that time shall deposit them in the treasury offices for sale for account of their owners, in conformity with the provisions of article 3 of the aforesaid decree, violators of the law being subject to the confiscation of their stock of cartridges.

"3. The selling price of said cartridges at the present time shall be 6 *colones* per 100 for the Smith & Wesson brand, calibers .32 and .38, and 7 *colones* per 100 for the Colt brand of the same calibers. The price of other brands or calibers shall be fixed at the proper time."

IMPORTANT TROPICAL PRODUCTS.

The climate and fertile soil of Salvador enable coffee, cacao, sugar cane, tabaco, pineapples, maize, and other valuable agricultural products to flourish and grow to perfection in the tropical region of the Republic, and to produce at the same time a rich variety of medicinal plants and useful resinous substances. One of these articles, the celebrated balsam of Peru, which, although not grown in Peru, bears the name of that distant Republic, is worthy of special mention. It is said that in the time of the viceroys, when Peru was a province

of Spain, orders were given that all the balsam gathered in Salvador should be shipped to the port of Callao to be reshipped by the authorities to Spain. The fact is that the balsam of Peru is only produced in a small zone of Salvador, lying between the ports of La Libertad and Acajutla, from a shrub known to botanists as *Myrospernum salvatorense*.

Indigo or anil is another product that was formerly almost exclusively obtained from Salvador. Twenty-five or thirty years ago it was about the only article of export of the Republic. The annual value of the exports have fallen from over $3,000,000 during the period referred to to about $500,000 at the present time, owing to the competition with aniline, a similar substance made from the by-products of coal. Cacao was formerly also an important article of export, but, due to a disease of the cacao tree, the production in the Republic has been reduced to such an extent that the export of this article has greatly diminished.

The principal articles of export of the Republic are coffee, cacao, indigo, caoutchouc, precious woods, dyewoods, balsam, medicinal plants, and undressed skins. The chief imports are white and figured cotton, linen, and silk fabrics, wines, alcohol and liquors, oil, arms, glassware, medical supplies, paper, ready-made articles, confectionery, pastes, etc.

UNITED STATES.

TRADE WITH LATIN AMERICA.

STATEMENT OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

Following is the latest statement, from figures compiled by the Bureau of Statistics, United States Department of Commerce and Labor, showing the value of the trade between the United States and Latin-American countries. The report is for the month of January, 1908, with a comparative statement for the corresponding month of the previous year; also for the seven months ending January, 1908, as compared with the same period of the preceding year. It should be explained that the figures from the various custom-houses, showing imports and exports for any one month, are not received at the Treasury Department until about the 20th of the following month, and some time is necessarily consumed in compilation and printing, so that the returns for January, for example, are not published until some time in March.

IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE.

Articles and countries.	January.		Seven months ending January.	
	1907.	1908.	1907.	1908.
Cocoa (*Cacao; coco ou cacao; cacao*):				
Central America	8,252	5,908	24,506	21,485
Brazil	65,384	132,636	1,581,927	1,858,271
Other South America	168,800	71,221	1,086,622	1,415,919
Coffee (*Café; café; café*):				
Central America	509,691	323,202	1,222,369	1,404,369
Mexico	93,671	157,509	495,434	594,986
Brazil	5,037,466	3,656,302	37,082,211	28,488,132
Other South America	856,357	673,789	5,237,881	4,946,748
Copper (*Cobre; cobre; cobre*):				
Mexico	1,545,433	443,396	10,405,289	7,887,462
Cuba	4,169	1,335	44,659	49,571
South America	157,195	152,901	442,584	844,329
Fibers:				
Cotton unmanufactured (*Algodón en rama; algodão em rama; coton non manufacturé*):				
South America	121,062	53,048	392,325	337,625
Ixtle or Tampico fiber (*Ixtle; ixtle; ixtle*):				
Mexico	86,594	73,459	854,181	603,407
Sisal grass (*Henequen; henequen; henequen*):				
Mexico	1,508,836	1,086,588	9,274,649	8,343,386
Fruits:				
Bananas (*Plátanos; bananas; bananes*):				
Central America	327,893	491,548	2,991,665	3,487,455
Cuba	32	.....	519,160	343,117
South America	30,584	32,178	47,759	241,494
Oranges (*Naranjas; laranjas; oranges*):				
Mexico	2,365	1,263	34,617	52,039
Cuba	2,114	841	6,319	2,718
Furs and fur skins (*Pieles finas; pelles finas; peaux*):				
South America	12,314	13,834	269,694	126,118
Goatskins (*Pieles de cabra; pelles de cabra; peaux de chèvres*):				
Mexico	326,943	175,363	1,630,096	1,027,798
Brazil	143,967	140,698	1,031,927	772,841
Other South America	240,539	63,872	1,435,899	635,497
Hides of cattle (*Cueros vacunos; couros de gado; cuirs de betail*):				
Mexico	204,831	111,594	1,000,967	491,489
Cuba	31,491	4,491	196,185	63,989
Brazil	.....	.....	98,901	75,290
Other South America	1,305,646	431,620	5,100,082	3,457,602
India rubber, crude (*Goma elástica; borracha cruda; caoutchouc*):				
Central America	97,592	74,207	444,983	401,643
Mexico	146,683	294,968	971,473	2,055,047
Brazil	2,912,074	1,007,937	16,739,378	9,790,378
Other South America	45,106	60,692	863,045	797,628
Iron ore (*Mineral de hierro; mineral de ferro; minéral de fer*):				
Cuba	193,276	167,988	1,209,683	1,569,321
Lead ore (*Plomo; chumbo; plomb*):				
Mexico	197,502	289,542	1,512,928	2,130,493
Sugar, not above No. 16 Dutch standard (*Azúcar, inferior al No. 16 del modelo holandes; assucar não superior ao No. 16 de padrão hollandez; sucre, pas au-dessus du type hollandais No. 16*):				
Mexico	39,349	814	94,107	884,253
Cuba	5,045,851	1,650,959	22,156,101	15,321,609
Brazil	188,366	.....	825,653	.....
Other South America	171,151	96,925	1,728,006	469,921
Tobacco and manufactures (*Tabaco y sus manufacturas; tabaco e sus manufacturas; Tabac et ses manufactures*):				
Cuba	1,657,059	1,415,992	11,821,366	10,315,011
Wood mahogany (*Caoba; mogno; acajou*):				
Central America	21,369	56,158	247,212	477,846
Mexico	86,216	57,484	346,567	412,550
Cuba	4,958	556	109,703	103,064

IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	January.		Seven months ending January.	
	1907.	1908.	1907.	1908.
Wool (*Lana; lã; laine*):				
South America—				
Class 1 (clothing)	776,422	436,424	879,758	673,224
Class 2 (combing)	111,214	161	246,322	278,298
Class 3 (carpet)	900	170	419,421	55,836

EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE.

Agricultural implements (*Instrumentos agricolas; instrumentos de agricultura; machines agricoles*):				
Mexico	27,839	40,971	247,102	281,889
Cuba	2,985	2,662	38,219	81,677
Argentine Republic	302,507	388,926	2,907,737	2,774,683
Brazil	6,402	55,547	61,184	183,744
Chile	29,478	18,169	308,087	312,669
Other South America	16,492	37,266	147,144	165,803
Animals:				
Cattle (*Ganado vacuno; gado; bétail*):				
Mexico	68,276	70,495	551,202	566,184
Cuba	11,031	6,645	312,461	108,038
South America	9,341	3,957	37,289	26,846
Hogs (*Cerdos; porcos; porcs*):				
Mexico	24,076	13,584	145,766	117,426
South America	42	.....	712	822
Horses (*Caballos; cavallos; chevaux*):				
Mexico	42,800	3,670	245,423	89,762
Sheep (*Ovejas; ovelhas; brébis*):				
Mexico	.....	390	56,618	45,722
Books, maps, etc. (*Libros, mapas, etc.; livros, mappas, etc.; livres, mappes, etc.*):				
Central America	3,624	7,091	31,603	52,718
Mexico	26,968	23,116	163,288	220,069
Cuba	46,201	26,046	193,005	185,750
Argentine Republic	5,258	5,897	60,561	43,217
Brazil	4,092	27,020	58,834	75,880
Chile	47,368	10,473	193,209	73,999
Other South America	23,230	29,507	57,947	66,818
Breadstuffs:				
Corn (*Maiz; milho; maïs*):				
Central America	1,768	5,041	16,998	54,592
Mexico	112,327	22,488	707,555	398,609
Cuba	145,242	104,711	804,157	711,070
South America	390	5,476	5,888	19,347
Oats (*Avena; aveia; avoine*):				
Central America	6,272	17,620	14,660	46,531
Mexico	8,569	2,416	33,503	20,162
Cuba	35,216	5,849	224,679	164,764
South America	788	286	8,662	7,804
Wheat (*Trigo; trigo; blé*):				
Central America	1,698	.....	19,463	12,509
Mexico	124,565	4,474	428,699	39,082
South America	15,753	59,301	298,929	397,004
Wheat flour (*Harina de trigo; farinha de trigo; farine de blé*):				
Central America	149,214	169,094	951,241	1,081,842
Mexico	10,896	9,856	72,577	84,798
Cuba	330,256	388,566	1,713,428	2,176,441
Brazil	102,609	102,221	776,496	1,013,276
Colombia	19,216	17,524	93,578	121,405
Other South America	107,064	86,752	1,260,601	999,798
Carriages, etc.:				
Automobiles (*Automóbiles; automoviles; automobiles*):				
Mexico	55,932	47,597	465,073	273,906
South America	23,839	21,551	131,381	169,348
Cars, passenger and freight (*Trenes para pasage y carga; carros de passageiros e carga; wagons de voyageurs et de marchandises*):				
Central America	198,945	310,709	660,397	680,660
Mexico	184,938	132,083	1,353,328	894,462
Cuba	70,452	96,944	467,855	569,166
Argentine Republic	297,918	160,069	1,286,088	469,765
Chile	5,891	.....	78,944	316,881
Other South America	38,680	108,892	281,366	831,783

EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	January.		Seven months ending January.	
	1907.	1908.	1907.	1908.
Cycles and parts of (*Bicicletas y sus accesorios; bicyclos e partes; bicyclettes et leurs parties*):				
Mexico	8,377	7,005	59,733	55,238
Cuba	4,532	2,539	19,537	26,755
Argentine Republic	2,411	2,506	11,999	9,546
Brazil	1,129	655	5,758	5,826
Other South America	880	1,659	12,958	8,298
Clocks and watches (*Relojes de pared y bolsillo; relogios de bolso y parede; horloges et montres*):				
Central America	1,682	1,517	9,817	12,136
Mexico	5,788	3,268	29,095	32,590
Argentine Republic	2,239	15,715	36,776	50,975
Brazil	7,664	5,929	56,171	69,571
Chile	2,234	4,092	26,292	32,814
Other South America	3,352	4,529	24,546	30,001
Coal (*Carbón; carvão; charbon*):				
Mexico	259,089	353,182	1,777,335	1,895,602
Cuba	154,091	229,222	1,144,401	1,430,962
Copper (*Cobre; cobre; cuivre*):				
Mexico	90,695	40,981	540,359	795,013
Cotton:				
Cotton, unmanufactured (*Algodón en rama; algodão em rama; coton non manufacturé*):				
Mexico	2,740	40,703	33,683	193,644
Cotton cloths (*Tejidos de algodon; fazendas de algodão; coton manufacturé*):				
Central America	166,624	126,750	1,000,796	878,781
Mexico	24,182	7,015	148,646	105,284
Cuba	86,636	57,772	660,933	705,229
Argentine Republic	11,695	12,885	179,380	63,589
Brazil	33,774	24,002	260,397	228,697
Colombia	87,493	72,446	688,209	377,027
Venezuela	86,683	53,227	515,588	355,981
Other South America	41,407	28,694	294,492	160,767
	47,384	40,540	317,196	298,536
Wearing apparel (*Ropa de algodon; roupa de algodão; vêtements de coton*):				
Central America	39,179	30,462	199,918	359,823
Mexico	20,257	19,411	143,366	274,323
Cuba	22,492	15,801	199,748	197,159
Other South America	10,113	5,677	69,886	80,206
Twine (*Bramante; barbante; ficelle*):				
Argentine Republic	13,126	39,194	1,095,619	1,663,037
Other South America	14,285	8,655	181,990	206,062
Fish:				
Salmon (*Salmón; salmão; saumon*):				
Colombia	230	553	1,821	3,175
Other South America	70,691	16,052	228,046	344,148
Fruits and nuts (*Frutas y nueces; fruitas e nozes; fruites et noix*):				
Central America	14,120	15,427	77,834	122,548
Mexico	22,508	11,183	182,999	156,589
Cuba	16,290	12,514	155,503	168,282
South America	12,314	12,746	92,688	106,956
Glucose and grape sugar (*Glucosas; glucoses; glucoses*):				
Argentine Republic	1,640	16,638	66,470	57,102
Other South America	2,714	2,249	9,992	8,563
Instruments:				
Electric and scientific apparatus (*Aparatos electricos y cientificos; apparatos electricos e scientificos; appareils électriques et scientifiques*):				
Central America	3,527	5,633	33,526	53,233
Mexico	34,669	10,058	255,398	145,102
Cuba	19,728	9,091	85,965	89,279
Argentine Republic	10,132	30,455	86,010	118,158
Brazil	2,946	11,728	34,492	83,597
Other South America	12,413	5,806	91,142	97,990

EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	January.		Seven months ending January.	
	1907.	1908.	1907.	1908.
Telegraph and telephone instruments (*Instrumentos telegráficos y telefónicos; instrumentos telegraphicos y telephonicos; instruments télégraphiques et téléphoniques*):				
Central America	21,345	13,146	121,752	134,062
Mexico	89,243	38,141	566,022	378,549
Cuba	33,693	31,438	341,249	268,293
Argentine Republic	18,761	12,438	200,981	134,758
Brazil	110,295	61,170	414,669	776,870
Other South America	65,957	63,925	355,303	421,659
Electrical machinery (*Maquinaria eléctrica; machinas electricas; machines électriques*):				
Central America	226	13,958	30,998	70,620
Mexico	143,452	51,501	661,694	879,759
Cuba	1,505	3,162	73,625	57,828
Argentine Republic	5,947	9,376	97,827	182,762
Brazil	45,743	48,857	275,172	536,869
Other South America	1,793	14,814	80,209	118,391
Iron and steel, manufactures of—				
Steel rails (*Carriles de acero; trilhos de aço; rails d'acier*):				
Central America	.....	4,056	167,487	597,225
Mexico	165,468	32,205	639,197	402,970
South America	265,377	95,905	1,562,695	1,005,779
Structural iron and steel (*Hierro y acero para construcción; ferro e aço para construcção; fer et acier pour la construction*):				
Mexico	61,578	50,514	418,354	520,977
Cuba	17,231	118,107	180,609	423,795
South America	40,698	202,309	289,072	662,598
Wire (*Alambre; arame; fil de fer*):				
Central America	21,523	29,851	123,208	156,794
Mexico	55,536	57,110	312,819	732,488
Cuba	50,501	30,435	256,226	427,244
Argentine Republic	109,944	129,463	789,277	974,534
Brazil	25,346	36,513	145,818	303,622
Other South America	48,684	43,993	336,510	465,873
Builders' hardware, etc. (*Materiales, de metal para construcción; ferragems; matériaux de construction en fer et acier*):				
Central America	30,617	24,974	216,972	223,418
Mexico	93,940	65,995	605,096	588,897
Cuba	62,656	35,233	332,805	343,225
Argentine Republic	73,029	74,794	507,282	420,832
Brazil	38,151	44,065	292,902	387,876
Chile	26,110	27,777	186,010	231,498
Colombia	7,462	13,015	43,459	64,362
Venezuela	5,100	4,714	39,693	23,994
Other South America	27,158	39,519	180,256	229,534
Metal-working machinery (*Maquinaria para trabajar metales; machinismos para trabalhar em metal; machines pour travailler les métaux*):				
Mexico	15,716	4,511	56,595	57,470
South America	8,892	22,553	62,456	128,357
Pipes and fittings (*Cañeria; tubos; tuyaux*):				
Central America	38,607	16,763	344,953	282,314
Mexico	96,801	86,962	773,323	1,128,392
Cuba	78,227	78,130	338,735	747,613
Argentine Republic	11,689	9,771	66,820	81,246
Other South America	15,146	13,584	158,969	195,009
Sewing machines and parts of (*Máquinas de coser y sus accesorios; machinas de coser e accesorios; machines à coudre et leurs parties*):				
Central America	9,749	11,729	72,988	88,106
Mexico	65,314	50,723	473,189	411,582
Cuba	38,119	18,888	189,795	134,822
Argentine Republic	20,694	52,602	304,846	203,247
Brazil	32,829	29,303	274,623	348,102
Colombia	3,836	5,367	43,140	51,834
Other South America	28,333	29,316	243,977	349,908
Steam engines and parts of (*Locomotoras y accesorios; locomotivas e accesorios; locomotifs et leurs parties*):				
Central America	.....	.....	362,090	92,480
Mexico	19,000	170,397	947,976	331,242
Cuba	101,911	34,372	623,720	501,077
Argentine Republic	86,625	.....	396,776	105,725
Brazil	24,600	145,440	122,680	407,885
Other South America	75,706	58,211	222,930	688,581

EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	January.		Seven months ending January.	
	1907.	1908.	1907.	1908.
Typewriting machines and parts of (*Mecanògrafos y accesorios; machinas de escribir e accesorios; machines a écrire et leurs parties*):				
Central America	4,586	3,488	26,597	39,944
Mexico	29,620	22,645	220,446	201,158
Cuba	12,573	10,446	47,058	57,243
Argentine Republic	7,510	22,838	72,775	87,372
Brazil	8,493	8,095	37,321	66,483
Columbia	1,674	1,847	9,161	9,961
Other South America	22,190	17,377	116,976	141,649
Leather, other than sole (*Cuero, distinto del de suelas; couro, não para solas; cuirs, autres que pour semelles*):				
Central America	28,148	19,487	124,535	155,092
Cuba	14,419	4,791	76,914	73,661
Argentine Republic	14,725	31,379	142,398	135,599
Brazil	8,677	14,782	77,544	96,018
Other South America	9,772	17,078	169,583	160,701
Boots and shoes (*Calzados; calçados; chaussures*):				
Central America	54,431	78,038	340,505	470,337
Mexico	149,801	148,223	892,800	984,743
Colombia	1,142	3,594	28,337	38,117
Other South America	24,224	37,475	245,385	308,978
Meat and dairy products:				
Beef, canned (*Carne de vaca en latas; carne de vacca em latas; boeuf conservé*):				
Central America	7,042	2,769	41,782	45,702
Mexico	2,030	397	17,931	9,369
Cuba	1,083	3,543	11,238	16,692
Other South America	2,927	1,042	26,552	26,787
Beef, salted or pickled (*Carne de vaca salada ó adobada; carne de vacca, salgada; boeuf salé*):				
Central America	15,159	13,722	71,373	108,813
South America	10,184	11,965	155,390	144,895
Tallow (*Sebo; sebo; suif*):				
Central America	12,191	13,209	77,269	79,215
Mexico	2,813	3,995	14,042	32,627
Cuba	487	4,125	4,285	32,600
Chile	2,317	----------	52,090	35,559
Other South America	4,640	2,414	33,345	31,018
Bacon (*Tocino; toucinho; lard fumé*):				
Central America	2,674	3,172	19,129	24,784
Mexico	7,918	3,102	33,869	31,618
Cuba	69,407	18,167	352,639	255,864
Brazil	16,456	16,548	116,171	132,692
Other South America	448	234	3,444	14,010
Hams (*Jamones; presuntos; jambons*):				
Central America	18,601	19,706	82,559	113,993
Mexico	15,023	7,840	67,324	84,371
Cuba	49,538	44,405	348,044	372,839
Venezuela	3,303	3,331	29,186	29,448
Other South America	3,214	3,276	35,854	47,337
Pork (*Carne de puerco; carne de porco; porc*):				
Cuba	61,170	81,855	386,420	487,976
South America	13,076	9,263	136,045	153,023
Lard (*Manteca; banha; saindoux*):				
Central America	72,843	25,694	395,964	307,231
Mexico	86,797	121,298	382,116	566,699
Cuba	352,166	270,704	1,699,253	1,720,950
Brazil	49,605	67,590	564,398	546,248
Chile	6,864	4,193	111,755	101,663
Colombia	4,333	8,420	28,499	61,737
Venezuela	9,726	4,387	153,362	51,095
Other South America	28,125	74,790	341,223	414,093
Lard compounds (*Compuestos de manteca, compostos de banha; composées de saindoux*):				
Mexico	45,993	36,568	499,928	323,288
Cuba	255,016	135,217	897,565	1,036,202
Butter (*Mantequilla; manielga; beurre*):				
Central America	13,434	18,716	100,163	124,130
Mexico	15,201	7,777	81,625	79,005
Cuba	11,165	2,597	41,653	24,488
Brazil	1,920	193	52,319	24,297
Venezuela	1,326	1,107	37,956	34,806
Other South America	2,109	3,375	33,880	28,947
Cheese (*Queso; queijo; fromage*):				
Central America	7,959	6,525	46,293	50,520
Mexico	3,639	3,101	24,125	32,876
Cuba	2,610	1,343	10,952	14,166

EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	January.		Seven months ending January.	
	1907.	1908.	1907.	1908.
Naval Stores:				
Rosin, tar, etc. (*Resina, alquitran, etc.; resina e alcatrão; resine et goudron*):				
Cuba	7,600	7,845	51,622	62,098
Argentine Republic	.....	38,233	306,518	230,404
Brazil	49,733	25,069	318,177	446,297
Other South America	12,639	17,870	150,344	152,273
Turpentine (*Aguarras; aguaraz; térébenthine*):				
Central America	1,668	1,245	24,945	23,053
Cuba	8,579	5,848	51,929	51,287
Argentine Republic	13,709	23,017	115,294	266,729
Brazil	18,206	10.086	94,589	90,120
Chile	10,627	1,473	60,574	76,169
Other South America	2,984	5,073	44,596	59,003
Oils:				
Mineral, crude (*Aceites minerales; crudos; oleos mineraes, crus; huiles, minerales, brutes*):				
Mexico	124,233	2,423	644,194	606,704
Cuba	.....	56,301	257,932	290,754
Illuminating (*Aceites para alumbrado oleos para illuminação; huiles d'éclairage*):				
Central America	37,701	31,208	154,574	208,668
Cuba	38,114	2,321	77,500	90,207
Argentine Republic	40,986	199,104	1,116,296	1,231,190
Brazil	197,192	267,508	1,553,052	1,752,848
Chile	68,295	21,113	287,109	323,611
Other South America	59,184	110,157	675,436	742,581
Lubricating (*Aceites para la lubricación; oleos para lubrificação; huiles à graisser*):				
Mexico	17,831	13,346	166,306	98,413
Cuba	52,680	22,943	189,122	163,368
Argentine Republic	29,488	69,375	243,038	323,893
Brazil	30,677	21,432	211,021	191,085
Chile	13,813	27,838	117,212	128,623
Vegetables (*Aceites vegetales; oleos vegetaes; huiles végétales*):				
Central America	5,202	6,129	26,985	27,282
Mexico	87,030	157,381	536,380	699,910
Cuba	28,515	14,647	107,101	82,928
Argentine Republic	5,025	17,830	45,648	95,195
Brazil	134,016	27,927	240,175	163,195
Chile	1,317	1,838	39,051	78,876
Other South America	16,440	12,256	76,825	117,591
Paper (*Papel; papel; papier*):				
Mexico	6,579	9,136	33,492	58,855
Cuba	21,380	23,833	117,031	161,041
Argentine Republic	16,029	26,352	183,644	87,246
Brazil	414	1,145	9,382	5,210
Chile	11,775	13,541	91,808	110,124
Other South America	16,002	10,274	57,625	59,774
Paraffin (*Parafina; paraffina; paraffine*):				
Central America	6,972	6,554	37,361	48,358
Mexico	113,232	72,972	362,981	365,831
South America	4,613	2,214	32,439	26,060
Tobacco, unmanufactured (*Tabaco em rama; tabacco não manufacturado; tabac non manufacturé*):				
Central America	6,258	3,766	36,607	33,225
Mexico	18,636	5,457	81,655	81,915
Argentine Republic	3,359	15,439	27,713	148,206
Colombia	1,060	640	10,362	6,896
Other South America	3,793	5,248	59,850	54,990
Manufactured (*Tabaco elaborado; tabacco manufacturado; tabac manufacturé*):				
Central America	10,096	5,101	48,883	58,452
Wood unmanufactured (*Madera sin labrada; madeira não manufacturada; bois brut*):				
Central America	36,996	70,672	387,916	405,418
Mexico	141,709	98,925	769,158	1,100,876
Cuba	3,156	.....	77,686	16,761
Argentine Republic	15,000	.....	108,334	64,197
Other South America	15,492	458	193,576	19,909

EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	January.		Seven months ending January.	
	1907.	1908.	1907.	1908.
Lumber (*Maderas; madeiras; bois de construction*):				
Central America	87,629	238,863	747,533	884,426
Mexico	167,530	126,768	1,178,086	1,566,948
Cuba	268,972	116,885	1,206,283	1,064,219
Argentine Republic	598,198	269,265	3,762,531	2,081,139
Brazil	145,120	33,150	729,755	220,435
Chile	48,117	18,880	530,947	786,059
Other South America	130,795	39,613	775,318	845,755
Furniture (*Muebles; mobilia; meubles*):				
Central America	28,460	21,962	167,576	221,733
Mexico	97,794	103,128	527,592	641,777
Cuba	65,488	86,144	301,787	450,873
Argentine Republic	42,012	76,098	239,968	371,212
Brazil	6,855	3,869	42,334	69,618
Chile	6,581	5,058	48,047	70,369
Colombia	789	2,307	9,442	12,220
Venezuela	6,299	3,633	14,457	9,654
Other South America	4,370	16,720	65,817	93,304

CONVENTION FOR THE ARBITRATION OF PECUNIARY CLAIMS.

The Government of the United States has made public the ratification by the Senate of March 2, 1907, of the convention signed on August 13, 1906, by the delegates of the Governments represented at the Third International Conference of American States, continuing in force, with the exception of its third article, the convention providing for the arbitration of pecuniary claims signed on January 30, 1902, by the delegates to the Second International Conference.

The convention contains the following terms:

"The high contracting parties, animated by the desire to extend the term of duration of the treaty on pecuniary claims, signed at Mexico, January 30, 1902, and believing that, under present conditions, the reasons underlying the third article of said treaty have disappeared, have agreed upon the following:

"Sole article. The treaty on pecuniary claims, signed at Mexico, January 30, 1902, shall continue in force, with the exception of the third article, which is hereby abolished, until December 31,1912, both for the nations which have already ratified it, and for those which may hereafter ratify it."

RATIFICATION OF THE CONVENTION FOR CODES OF INTERNATIONAL LAW.

On February 3, 1908, the Senate of the United States ratified the convention signed at Rio de Janeiro on August 23, 1906, by the delegates of the Governments represented at the Third International Conference of American States, looking to the establishing of an international commission of jurists for the purpose of preparing draft codes of private and public international law regulating the relations between the nations of America.

The convention provides:

"ARTICLE 1. There shall be established an international commission of jurists, composed of one representative from each of the signatory States, appointed by their respective Governments, which commission shall meet for the purpose of preparing a draft of a code of private international law and one of public international law, regulating the relations between the nations of America. Two or more Governments may appoint a single representative, but such representative shall have but one vote.

"ART. 2. Notice of the appointment of the members of the commission shall be addressed by the Governments adhering to this convention, to the Government of the United States of Brazil, which shall take necessary steps for the holding of the first meeting.

"Notice of these appointments shall be communicated to the Government of the United States of Brazil before April 1, 1907.

"ART. 3. The first meeting of the commission shall be held in the city of Rio de Janeiro during the year 1907. The presence of at least 12 of the representatives of the signatory States shall be necessary for the organization of the commission.

"Said commission shall designate the time and place for subsequent sessions, provided, however, that sufficient time be allowed from the date of the final meeting to permit of the submission to the signatory States of all drafts or all important portions thereof at least one year before the date fixed for the Fourth International American Conference.

"ART. 4. Said commission, after having met for the purpose of organization and for the distribution of the work to the members thereof, may divide itself into two distinct committees—one to consider the preparation of a draft of a code of private international law and the other for the preparation of a code of public international law. In the event of such division being made, the committees must proceed separately until they conclude their duties, or else as provided in the final clause of article three.

"In order to expedite and increase the efficiency of this work, both committees may request the Governments to assign experts for the consideration of especial topics. Both committees shall also have the power to determine the period within which such special reports shall be presented.

"ART. 5. In order to determine the subjects to be included within the scope of the work of the commission, the Third International Conference recommends to the commission that they give special attention to the subjects and principles which have been agreed upon in existing treaties and conventions, as well as to those which are incorporated in the national laws of the American States, and furthermore recommends to the special attention of the commission the

treaties of Montevideo of 1889 and the debates relating thereto, as well as the projects of conventions adopted at the Second International Conference of the American States held in Mexico in 1902 and the discussions thereon; also all other questions which give promise of juridical progress, or which tend to eliminate the causes of misunderstanding or conflicts between said States.

"ART. 6. The expense incident to the preparation of the drafts, including the compensation for technical studies made pursuant to article 4, shall be defrayed by all the signatory States in the proportion and form established for the support of the International Bureau of the American Republics, of Washington, with the exception of the compensation of the members of the commission, which shall be paid to the representatives by their respective Governments.

"ART. 7. The Fourth International Conference of the American States shall embody in one or more treaties the principles upon which an agreement may be reached, and shall endeavor to secure their adoption and ratification by the nations of America.

"ART. 8. The Governments desiring to ratify this convention shall so advise the Government of the United States of Brazil, in order that the said Government may notify the other Governments through diplomatic channels, such action taking the place of an exchange of notes."

THE DISINFECTION OF IMPORTED HIDES.

The Treasury Department at Washington in the last week of January, 1908, issued the following order revoking the recent foreign hide disinfection order and providing for a new procedure as follows:

Upon the recommendation of the Secretary of Agriculture, Department Circular 48 of July 18, 1907 (T. D. 28336), relative to the disinfection of imported hides, is hereby revoked.

In accordance with the provisions of T. D. 23212 of July 30, 1901, certificates of disinfection will be required upon the entry of all hides of meat cattle, when not dry salted or arsenic cured, from the countries of Europe, Africa, Asia, Australia, and South America.

Dry hides which have been salted or arsenic cured will be considered as having been disinfected by the process of curing, and need not be submitted to any further treatment. Dry hides which have not been salted or arsenic cured should be disinfected. Disinfection with sulphur dioxide may be accepted in case a room is provided which can be tightly closed and also in case the bundles of hides are undone and each hide suspended separately from the ceiling in such manner that there may be free circulation of the sulphur fumes and that all parts of the surface may be acted upon. There should be at least four pounds of sulphur burned to each 1,000 cubic feet of air space, and the room should be kept closed and the hides subjected to the

sulphur dioxide for six hours; or the dry hides may be immersed in a four per cent. solution of carbolic acid, or a one to 1,000 solution of bichloride of mercury until they are thoroughly wet with the disinfectant. Fresh or moist hides, whether salted or not, should be disinfected by immersion in a 5 per cent solution of carbolic acid, or a 1 to 1,000 solution of bichloride of mercury.

It is further directed that hides of meat cattle, other than dry salted or arsenic cured, the product of the countries above named, will require disinfection as above whenever they shall be shipped via the ports of any other country; and that hides other than dry salted or arsenic cured, the product of any country not named above, if transshipped and actually landed at ports in any of the countries named will require disinfection. It should be understood that the regulations herein provided do not in any way modify or affect any regulations concerning disinfection issued under the quarintine laws of the United States.

Officers of the customs are directed to treat hides of meat cattle shipped to the United States without proper disinfection as prohibited importations and to refuse entry of such hides, including calfskins, hide cuttings or parings, and glue stock, and the product of meat cattle, shipped from any of the countries named, except hides, parings, cuttings, and such glue stock which have been dry salted or arsenic cured or lime dried after soaking for forty days in a strong solution of lime (T. D. 15648 and T. D. 15753) and except abattoir hides the product of Sweden, Norway, and Great Britain (T. D. 20582) and hides taken from American cattle killed in lairages in Great Britain, in all cases where the invoices are not accompanied by the proper certificates of disinfection issued by the American consular officers in the district from which such hides are imported, and the disinfection of such hides in this country, or storage of the same in general order warehouse will not be permitted, as the passage of diseased hides through the country or storage with other goods would tend to the dissemination of cattle disease in the United States.

LIVE-STOCK STATISTICS, 1908.

The Department of Agriculture of the United States reports as follows regarding the numbers and values of live stock on farms and ranges in the country on January 1, 1908:

Horses, 19,992,000, $1,867,530,000; mules, 3,869,000, $416,939,000; milch cows, 21,194,000, $650,057,000; other cattle, 50,073,000, $845,938,000; sheep, 54,631,000, $211,736,000; swine, 56,084,000, $339,030,000.

As compared with the same date of the preceding year, it is shown that horses increased 245,000; mules, 52,000; milch cows, 226,000;

other cattle decreased 1,493,000; sheep increased 1,391,000, and swine 1,290,000.

In values, horses show an increase of $20,952,000; mules decreased $11,125,000; milch cows increased $4,560,000; other cattle decreased $35,619,000; sheep increased $7,526,000 and swine decreased $78,761,000.

The total value of all the animals enumerated was $4,331,230,000, as compared with $4,423,698,000 on January 1, 1907, a decrease of $92,468,000, or 2.1 per cent.

EXPORTS OF MEAT PRODUCTS IN 1907.

Completed statistics of exports of animals and meat products from the United States during 1907 show a falling off in the value of the former of $4,637,040 and in the latter of $6,553,359 as compared with the preceding year.

For meat products, the total export value in 1907 is given as $192,962,623, against $199,515,982 in 1906, while shipments of meat animals in the two periods are reported as $34,808,819 and $39,445,859, respectively.

In meat products the chief losses in the year's trade were in bacon, about $13,000,000; lard, $2,500,000; canned meats and cured beef, each $1,500,000, and smaller decreases in sausages and oleomargarine products. Gains are shown in hams, $3,000,000; cured pork, $2,500,000; lard compounds, $2,000,000; fresh beef, $1,500,000; oleo oil, $1,250,000, and sausage casings, $750,000.

Animals for meat show a decline of $4,500,000; hogs $37,000 and sheep $123,000.

COFFEE IMPORTS IN 1907.

Total imports by the United States of coffee during the calendar year 1907 aggregated 940,247,312 pounds, as against 857,013,585 in the preceding year. Of the quantity imported, 727,187,465 pounds, or 77.34 per cent, was furnished by Brazil, and the American continent supplied nearly 98 per cent.

South American countries other than Brazil furnished 103,536,649 pounds; the Central American States, 67,704,098 pounds, and Mexico, 14,822,658, leaving a little over 2 per cent of the supply coming from the East Indies, Europe, Africa, and other parts of Asia.

The per capita consumption in 1907 was nearly 11 pounds, and the average import cost as reported to the custom-house was 7.64 cents per pound.

EXPORTS OF RUBBER MANUFACTURES, 1907.

The values of exports of manufactures of india rubber and gutta-percha from the United States during 1907 are officially stated as $6,993,333, as compared with $5,658,606 in 1906. These manufactures include belting, packing, and hose, boots and shoes, and all other rubber goods. The value of the first-named classification was $1,402,373, of the second, $1,646,880, and of all others, $3,944,080.

THE TOBACCO INDUSTRY IN 1907.

Statistics compiled by the "United States Tobacco Journal" from the monthly returns of the intenal-revenue receipts of the country show a decrease in the number of cigars manufactured in 1907 of 20,258,907, as compared with 1906, the figures for the two years being 7,353,232,089, and 7,373,490,996, respectively. What are known in the trade as "little cigars" increased in number from 994,791,203 to 1,069,079,350, a gain of 74,288,147, while cigarettes showed an advance of 930,061,509 in 1907 over 1906, the figures for the two years being 5,298,790,523 and 4,368,729,015.

Manufactured tobacco also showed a great gain in 1907 over the preceding year, 361,060,437 pounds being the reported output, as compared with 358,963,279 pounds in 1906, an increase of 2,097,158 pounds.

URUGUAY.

FINANCIAL STATUS IN 1906–7.

The financial year 1906–7 ending on June 30, 1907, showed a treasury surplus for the Republic of Uruguay of $2,149,984, as compared with $453,110 in the preceding year, thus establishing a record of prosperity for the country.

The total revenue for the twelve months aggregated $26,159,411, an increase of nearly $6,000,000 over the fiscal year 1906.

Of the recorded surplus $1,000,000 was applied to increasing the capital of the Bank of the Republic with the special object of enabling it to augment its note issue, and the greater part of the remainder was expended on various public works and services, under the head of "extraordinary" expenditures.

The debt service of the country has been promptly met and local disbursements made with the strictest punctuality.

CUSTOMS RECEIPTS IN 1907.

Customs receipts during the calendar year 1907 by the Republic of Uruguay aggregated $13,195,210, as compared with $12,863,597 in the preceding twelve months, a total net increase of $331,612. While

the increase is not so great as that recorded for 1905 and 1906, the total for the year forms a record in the fourteen-year period since 1894.

The receipts for the months of January, February, May, June, July, August, and December of 1907 showed an increase over the corresponding months of 1906, while the other five months of the year showed a decline in customs.

It is worthy of note that the increase revenue is attributable to import duties, $11,852,041 being assigned to this branch of trade, against $11,395,656 in the preceding year. On the other hand, export duties declined from $1,467,941 to $1,343,168. It would thus appear that while the country imports more foreign merchandise than it did previously, this condition has not been accompanied by an increased sale of its products abroad.

The above statement of customs revenue does not include the special additional duties assigned to the port works fund, and which probably amounted to $1,200,000.

INAUGURAL SESSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN STUDENTS.

On January 26, 1908, the inaugural session of the International Congress of American Students, was held in the city of Montevideo, Republic of Uruguay. The following countries were represented: Argentine Republic, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Guatemala, Paraguay, Peru, and Uruguay, the number of delegates exceeding 100. Doctor MIRANDA, of Uruguay, was elected President of the Congress; and the President of the Republic, President ROOSEVELT of the United States, and the Ministers of Foreign Relations, and Public Instruction were elected honorary presidents.

PROPOSED REVISION OF THE MINING CODE.

In accordance with a decree recently issued by the Ministry of Industries, a commission charged with the revision of the Uruguayan mining code has been appointed. The specified task of the commission is to propose such reforms as may be deemed necessary as regards the mode of acquiring property in mines, the regulation of prospecting, conditions to which mining concessions should be subject, rights of discoverers, conditions and effects of registration, obligations and rights of the registrar and the denouncer, abandonment and loss of mines and all steps necessary for the regularization of mining property and concessions.

The mining industry of the country, though believed to be capable of vast development, has never yet been worked on an important scale, and it is believed that many of the obstacles to development may be removed by the establishment of a satisfactory and comprehensive legal code.

BALANCE SHEET OF THE BANK OF THE REPUBLIC, 1907.

The balance sheet of the Bank of the Republic in Montevideo, for 1907, shows that the profits for the year amounted to $728,242, as against $448,672 for 1906. As the Government is the only shareholder, it receives 80 per cent of the profits, equivalent to $592,594. The interest on the loan raised for the bank's capital requires a yearly service of $470,000.

REGULATIONS GOVERNING INSURANCE COMPANIES.

The following clauses in the Uruguay license tax as published in the "*Diario Oficial*" of January 12, and subsequently promulgated define the regulations governing the operations of insurance companies in the Republic:

"Article 4, No. 18, states that insurance companies or agencies, whatever their title and object, whose direction and subscribed capital are not located in the country, as also every person or institution receiving premiums, shall pay at the end of each quarter an additional license (patente) equivalent to 5 per cent of all the gross receipts proceeding from policies issued in the Republic, or in favor of persons residing in national territory, including the premiums for renewal of policies with the exception of maritime insurances, the additional license on which shall be 4 per cent, life insurances which shall pay 2 per cent, and agricultural and labor accident insurances which shall be exempt from said tax.

"When the said companies or agencies have their board of directors and capital located in the country, the additional license shall be 2 per cent, with the exception of life and accident insurances, which shall pay 1½ per cent, and agricultural and labor accident insurances which shall be exempt from the tax.

"Every foreign company or agency in order to do business shall deposit in the Bank of the Republic, and within six months from the promulgation of this act, the following sums in cash, or their equivalent in bonds of public debt valued at the rate of quotation on the stock exchange the day previous to the deposit:

"1. $30,000 for fire insurance companies or agencies;

"2. $20,000 for other classes of insurance companies operating in one risk only.

"Companies which operate in more than one risk shall deposit an additional $5,000 for each of the other risks which they insure.

"The national (i. e., native) companies shall deposit in the same manner the half of said sums.

"Agricultural and labor accident insurance companies are exempted from the obligation of depositing a guarantee.

"No insurance company included in the obligation of making a deposit may, after the term of six months, do business without having fulfilled this requisite, and the infringers of this disposition shall be penalized with arrest for six months to one year and with the closing of the respective house or agency.

"Every foreign company or agency which proves to the Government that it has invested in the country, whether in real estate or in public debt or mortgage bonds of Uruguay, a sum of not less than $150,000, exclusive of the guarantee to which it is obliged as above, shall be placed on a par with the national or native companies as regards the payment of additional license and of the deposit of guarantee.

"Every false declaration, act, or omission, tending to the evasion of the tax shall be penalized by twenty times the value of the same, without prejudice to the penal actions that may ensue.

"No charge is made on reinsurances which the companies may make between themselves, but the operations of reinsurance accepted by a company or agency situated in the country of an insurance effected abroad, shall be subject to payment of the tax."

According to the provisions of article 14, "within the period of six months established in clause 18 of the act, the companies, agencies, and other persons or institutions who receive premiums shall declare before the office of internal taxes the class of risks in which they are going to operate, and prove that they are qualified for the same by a presentation of a certificate of the Bank of the Republic, stating that they have effected the deposit in conformity with the dispositions of said clause. The deposit shall be made to the joint order of the executive power and the depositor."

Article 15 states "that in order to enjoy the benefit of the reduction of the tax, the insurance companies or agencies whose capital is located abroad shall further establish before the Ministry of Finance that they have invested in the country $150,000 gold, showing to this effect the schedule of property tax in the case of real estate or the certificate of deposit in the Bank of the Republic to the joint order of the executive power and the company or agency in the case of funds or public values."

The change of location of the insurance companies and others subject to additional patente or license, for the effect of reduction of the same, shall in no case entail the return or reduction of what has already been paid or become due.

VENEZUELA.

REPEAL OF THE MONOPOLY ON MATCHES.

The "*Gaceta Oficial*" of Venezuela for January 9, 1908, publishes a decree of President CASTRO of that date, setting aside the contracts of August 29, 1904, and August 9, 1905, establishing the monopoly on matches in favor of the *Fábrica Nacional de Fósforos*. Hereafter the manufacture and import of matches is free in all the territory of the Republic, subject only to internal revenue and customs duties.

The "*Gaceta Oficial*" of January 10, 1908, publishes a decree of that date regulating the internal revenue and import duties on matches.

The internal-revenue stamp tax upon matches is as follows:

Upon boxes of wooden matches containing 40 matches, a stamp of the value of 1 centimo of bolivar.

Upon boxes of wax matches containing 60 matches, a stamp of the value of 2 centimos of bolivar.

Upon boxes of fancy wax matches containing 120 matches, a stamp of the value of 4 centimos of bolivar.

Matches intended for export pay no stamp tax.

Imported matches in addition to the internal-revenue tax pay import duty under the fourth customs class, as does also phosphorus paste used in the manufacture of matches.

MAGNESITE CONCESSION

United States Consul THOMAS P. MOFFAT, of La Guaira, reports a recent concession by the Venezuelan Government, granting the exclusive privilege, for a period of twenty-five years, of exporting magnesite found on private lands in the island of Margarita. The Government is to receive 1 bolivar (19.3 cents) on each ton exported. It is estimated that the annual output will be from 12,000 to 15,000 tons. Work has been commenced on several properties, and shipments will probably be made very soon. A private contract is said to have been made between the grantee and an American company for the entire quantity exported.

BRITISH MERCHANDISE IN LATIN AMERICA, 1906–7.

Among the leading articles of British commerce shipped to Latin America during 1907, with their respective valuations, were the following, the figures for 1906 being also given for purposes of comparison:

To South America.	1906.	1907.
Locomotives	$7,578,551	$8,054,349
Agricultural engines	1,402,678	863,443
Other steam engines	2,524,540	2,490,669
Agricultural machines	1,370,917	1,050,292
Sewing machines	271,701	384,497
Mining machinery	350,417	444,598
Textile machinery	1,024,894	1,877,841
Other machinery	6,335,569	6,307,204

In cotton piece goods the following shipments are reported:

To—	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.
	Yards.	*Yards.*		
Mexico	25,598,400	29,390,600	$1,823,492	$2,313,665
Central America	42,900,500	46,248,500	2,231,368	2,499,280
Cuba	58,712,800	64,242,700	2,726,495	3,157,769
Haiti and Santo Domingo	16,883,600	10,613,500	962,797	634,572
Colombia and Panama	58,177,100	61,596,500	2,967,654	3,201,859
Venezuela	50,904,500	53,327,800	2,204,694	2,333,204
Peru	36,902,000	34,114,700	2,201,239	2,161,660
Chile	104,449,400	112,445,500	6,029,136	7,005,156
Brazil	124,166,700	144,247,900	8,154,275	9,576,940
Uruguay	43,911,000	32,802,900	2,854,946	2,391,383
Argentine Republic	192,919,000	149,224,000	13,626,664	11,208,113

EXMO. SR. DON JOSÉ ALGARA, SUBSECRETARIO DE RELACIONES EXTERIORES DE MÉXICO, QUE FALLECIÓ EL 10 DE MARZO 1908.

His Excellency Don José Algara, Assistant Secretary of Foreign Relations, of Mexico, died March 10, 1908.

Boletín Mensual

DE LA

Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas,

Unión Internacional de Repúblicas Americanas.

Vol. XXVI. MARZO 1908. No. 3.

Cuando esta edición del Boletín se esté repartiendo, ya se habrán recibido propuestas de las razones sociales que han sido invitadas para que presenten presupuestos para la construcción del nuevo edificio de la Oficina Internacional. Sólo debe requerirse un corto tiempo para celebrar el contrato, y los trabajos verdaderos deben inaugurarse á mediados de abril, á mas tardar. Se harán grandes esfuerzos por activar los trabajos, á fin de que el edificio esté prácticamente terminado antes de que el Secretario de Estado y Presidente del Consejo Directivo se retire de su alto empleo en marzo de 1909. En vista del especial interés que el Secretario Root se ha tomado en las relaciones de los Estados Unidos con la América Latina, en la reorganización y ensanche de la Oficina y en exponerle de tal manera al Señor Carnegie la importancia de la esfera de acción de la Oficina, que este caballero contribuyó generosamente $750,000 para el nuevo edificio de la Oficina, el Consejo Directivo se siente unánimemente dispuesto á activar los trabajos todo lo posible, á fin de que la inauguración de este nuevo edificio se efectúe durante la administración del Señor Root. Las descripciones y planos, tales como fueron aprobados finalmente por el Secretario de Estado y el Director de la Oficina, en representación del Consejo Directivo, contienen muchas mejoras respecto de los diseños originales, y no cabe duda de que este edificio será uno de los más hermosos de Wáshington. En él podrá admirarse tanto lo artístico como lo útil, simbolizando el objeto al cual se ha de consagrar, y adaptándose, no obstante, para que en él puedan llevarse á cabo todos los trabajos prácticos de la Oficina. Se espera que las fotografías de los dibujos revisados puedan reproducirse en la edición de abril del Boletín. La demora de los arquitectos para terminar los planos ha sido ocasionada, en gran parte, por las revisiones de los primeros dibujos y el detenido estudio que se ha hecho de todos los detalles.

MUERTE DEL SEÑOR DON JOSÉ ALGARA.

Con el fallecimiento del Exmo. Señor Don José Algara, Subsecretario de Relaciones Exteriores de México, acaecido el día 10 de marzo corriente, en la capital de la vecina República, ha perdido ésta uno de sus más leales servidores y uno de sus hijos más preclaros, y la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas un amigo bueno y consecuente.

El Señor Algara ocupó puestos de la mayor importancia y responsabilidad, tales como la Cátedra de Derecho Internacional Privado y de Legislación Comparada en la Escuela de Jurisprudencia de México, habiendo sido Miembro de la Junta Directiva del Colegio de Abogados, Secretario de Estado Interino, y ocupado otros mestos de carácter administrativo, demostrando siempre su idoenidad en el desempeño de sus deberes.

LA NUEVA COMISIÓN PAN-AMERICANA.

La Tercera Conferencia Pan-Americana que se celebró en Río de Janeiro prescribió sabiamente el nombramiento de una comisión en cada país nombrada por el Secretario de Relaciones Exteriores ó Secretario de Estado, que debía cooperar con él para obtener la aprobación de los tratados, convenciones y resoluciones aprobadas por la Conferencia, y también con la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas, á fin de iniciar y llevar á cabo las medidas para el desarrollo de la cordialidad y el comercio pan-americanos, que sin duda redundaría en beneficio de los países interesados. El Secretario Root invitó recientemente á los siguientes hombres representativos para que presten servicios como miembros de esta comisión por parte de los Estados Unidos:

Sr. Andrew Carnegie; Hon. William I. Buchanan, presidente de la delegación de los Estados Unidos á la Tercera Conferencia Pan-Americana; Sr. Stephen B. Elkins, Senador de los Estados Unidos, por la Virginia Occidental; Sr. Charles B. Landis, Representante de Indiana en el Congreso de los Estados Unidos; Sr. James L. Slayden, Representante de Texas en el Congreso de los Estados Unidos; Gen. A. E. Bates, del Ejército de los Estados Unidos, retirado; Prof. L. S. Rowe, de la Universidad de Pensilvania y Delegado de los Estados Unidos á la Tercera Conferencia Pan-Americana; Hon. Robert Bacon, Subsecretario de Estado; Sr. Benjamin Ide Wheeler, Presidente de la Universidad de California; Sr. E. J. James, Presidente de la Universidad de Illinois; Prof. Paul S. Heinsch, de la Universidad de Wisconsin; Sr. William E.

CURTIS, conocido corresponsal de periódicos, y el Sr. JOHN BARRETT, Director de la Oficina Internacional.

Al nombrar esta comisión, el Secretario de Estado manifestó que ésta podía prestar importantísimos y útiles servicios cooperando con los varios Estados americanos en la dirección de sus mutuos acuerdos y cordiales relaciones.

RATIFICACIÓN DE LOS TRATADOS CENTRO-AMERICANOS.

Es muy grato anotar la ratificación—por una mayoría de los Gobiernos Centro-Americanos—de los tratados y convenciones que fueron firmados en la Conferencia de Paz Centro-Americana que se celebró recientemente en Wáshington. Esta actitud de los Gobiernos Centro-Americanos no puede menos de dar lugar á que se hagan los más encomiásticos comentarios en todos los ámbitos del mundo, llamando así la atención hacia sus grandes posibilidades de desarrollo y progreso. Según repetidas veces se ha indicado en el BOLETÍN, la América Central en conjunto puede considerarse como una de las regiones que posee mayores recursos naturales del Hemisferio Occidental, y sólo espera abundante capital, más ferrocarriles, mejores vías de comunicación acuáticas, y un gobierno estable y permanente, para obtener un grado de progreso y prosperidad que ha de asombrar al mundo.

EL HON. WILLIAM J. BRYAN Y LA AMÉRICA LATINA.

El día 15 de febrero, el Sr. JOHN BARRETT, Director de la Oficina Internacional, correspondiendo á una invitación especial del Club Comercial de Lincoln, Estado de Nebraska, pronunció un discurso en su banquete anual, en el cual discutío las relaciones comerciales extranjeras de los Estados Unidos, sobre todo en cuanto se refieren á la América Latina. En vista del hecho de que el Hon. WILLIAM J. BRYAN—que es uno de los hombres públicos más prominentes de los Estados Unidos—reside en Lincoln, el Señor BARRETT le escribió una carta, que fué contestada por el Señor BRYAN, acerca del asunto de los Estados Unidos y la América Latina, asunto que reviste un interés que traspasa los límites de lo puramente local, y por consecuencia, á continuación se insertan las cartas referidas:

"OFICINA INTERNACIONAL DE LAS REPÚBLICAS AMERICANAS,
" *Wáshington, D. C., enero 20 de 1908.*

"Hon. WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN,
"*Á cargo del National Press Bureau,*
" *Edificio de Munsey, Washington, D. C.*

"MI ESTIMADO SEÑOR BRYAN:

"El Club Comercial de Lincoln, Nebraska, me ha invitado para que pronuncie un discurso en su primer banquete anual, sobre las relaciones comerciales de los Estados Unidos con las Repúblicas situadas al sur de nosotros. Como quiera que V. es uno de los residentes más distinguidos de aquella ciudad y Estado, y como su opinión ha de influir mucho en dicho lugar, me sería muy grato conocer su parecer acerca de la iniciativa encaminada á obtener el fomento de un comercio mayor y de mayor cordialidad entre los Estados Unidos y sus naciones hermanas, á fin de que me sea posible leer en esta reunión de sus conciudadanos, lo que V. opine sobre el particular.

"Á propósito de lo expuesto, me tomo la libertad de añadir que si piensa V. permanecer algunos días en Wáshington, yo tendría el mayor placer en presentarle á los Embajadores y Ministros de las Repúblicas Latino-Americanas que constituyen nuestro Consejo Directivo y representan el mejor elemento de los estadistas y ciudadanos de la América Latina.

"Quedo de V. muy respetuosamente,

"JOHN BARRETT."

"WÁSHINGTON, D. C., *enero 28 de 1908.*

"Hon. JOHN BARRETT,
"*Oficina de las Repúblicas Americanas,*
" *Wáshington, D. C.*

"MI ESTIMADO SEÑOR BARRETT:

"Acabo de recibir su atenta carta. Al contestar su pregunta permítame manifestarle que no sólo estoy interesado, sino profundamente interesado en el desarrollo de nuestro comercio con la América del Sur. Creyendo, como efectivamente creo, que la idea del gobierno republicano está destinada á propagarse por todos los ámbitos del mundo, contemplo con verdadero interés el desarrollo de las Repúblicas situadas al sur de nosotros. He estado dos veces en México, y estuve presente en la inauguración del primer Presidente de la República de Cuba. Pensé hacer un viaje á la América del Sur este invierno, pero me he visto obligado á aplazarlo á mi pesar.

"Si tiene V. la bondad de leer los artículos que he escrito sobre México y Cuba, notará V. que el tono de ellos es evidentemente amistoso. Yo apruebo la actitud del Presidente CLEVELAND acerca de

Venezuela, y en artículos de fondo he propuesto el fomento del comercio entre los Estados Unidos y la América del Sur mediante el establecimiento de líneas de vapores, tanto en la costa oriental como en la occidental de ambos países. En vez de subvencionar líneas particulares, indiqué que el Gobierno construyese algunos buques adecuados para prestar el servicio de transporte en tiempo de guerra, y que entonces los cediese en arrendamiento en tiempo de paz, á condición de que establezcan el tráfico de carga y pasajeros entre nuestro país y todos los países de la América del Sur.

"Me agradaría mucho ser presentado á los representantes de las Repúblicas de Sur América que constituyen su Consejo Directivo.

"Dándole las gracias por haber tenído la bondad de llamar mi atención hacia este asunto.

"Quedo de V. atento y seguro servidor,

"W. J. Bryan."

HOMENAJE DE LA AMÉRICA LATINA AL SECRETARIO ROOT.

El Consejo Directivo de la Oficina Internacional en su última reunión aprovechó la circunstancia de hallarse ausente el Secretario Root, presidente de dicho Consejo, para rendirle un cumplido homenaje. Cuando las deliberaciones de la junta llegaron al punto en que se tomó en consideración el nuevo edificio, se presentó una moción, que fué unánimemente aprobada, con varios discursos muy apropiados, con el siguiente fin:

Que al construirse el nuevo edificio para la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas se levante en él un monumento apropiado en honor al Señor Secretario Root, como reconocimiento y público testimonio de sus importantísimos servicios y de sus constates trabajos al favor de la Unión Panamericana.

CONFERENCIA SOBRE CAMOENS POR EL EMBAJADOR NABUCO.

El Sr. Jaoquim Nabuco, hábil y erudito Embajador del Brasil, ha sido invitado por la Universidad de Yale para que dé una conferencia ante la Facultad y los estudiantes de dicha universidad sobre Camoens, el eximio poeta portugués. Por más satisfactorio que sea anotar el creciente interés que despiertan los grandes literatos del mundo latino, cuyos nombres son tan familiares en la América Latina y tan poco conocidos en los Estados Unidos, es especialmente grato que se haya escogido al Embajador Nabuco para que diserte sobre Camoens ante un auditorio tan culto como el que le ha de oír. El Señor Nabuco está considerado no sólo como uno de los diplomáticos más eminentes de

toda la América, sino que también es admirado por su erudición en el orbe entero. Esta conferencia debe ser no sólo una disertación repleta de valiosos informes, sino un verdadero acontecimiento literario.

UN ELOGIO PRODIGADO POR EL SEÑOR BRIDGMAN.

Todos los que trabajan sinceramente en pro de una buena causa agradecen mucho una frase de elogio y aprobación cuando procede de un juez tan perito como el Señor BRIDGMAN. Parece que en la concurrencia que oyó el discurso del Director de la Oficina sobre la América Latina y su viaje por los Andes, pronunciado ante la Sociedad Geográfica Americana, en el Salón de Méndelssohn, en la ciudad de Nueva York el 25 de febrero, se hallaba el Sr. H. L. BRIDGMAN, famoso explorador y escritor. En "The Brooklyn Standard Union" del domingo, 1° de marzo, se publicó un artículo de fondo intitulado "La América Latina Hoy y Mañana," escrito por el Señor BRIDGMAN, que contiene el siguiente párrafo:

"La Sociedad Geográfica Americana, á caso sin saberlo, hizo un buen servicio público al presentar al Señor BARRETT á un auditorio newyorquino, y ninguno de los que le oyó abriga duda alguna de que sus palabras debieran repetirse en muchas formas y en muchos lugares, y que acaso la época presente, con el prestigio de la armada americana y la cordialidad internacional que su triunfante circunnavegación del continente ha despertado, sea el momento psicológico para hacer dicha propaganda, y que si es verdad que son pocos los auditorios y muy contados los escenarios, sin embargo, el poder de la prensa puede invocarse dignamente para que tome por su cuenta esta cuestión. Una de las partes más amenas y alentadoras del discurso del Señor BARRETT fué aquella en que le rindó un merecido homenaje al Secretario ROOT, que á juicio del orador es el Secretario de Estado más hábil de nuestra historia, y en la que alude á los beneficiosos é imperecederos resultados del viaje de dicho Secretario á la América del Sur, uno de cuyos incidentes fué el viaje del Señor BARRETT por la renombrada Cordillera de los Andes.

LOS CURSOS DE ESTUDIO EN YALE ACERCA DE LA AMÉRICA LATINA.

En esta edición del BOLETÍN se publica un resumen de lo que la Universidad de Yale está haciendo para fomentar el estudio sobre la América Latina. Si otras universidades preparan cursos de estudios semejantes, el BOLETÍN tendrá mucho gusto en mencionarlos á fin de que tanto los estudiantes de la América del Norte como los de la del Sur puedan enterarse de las facilidades que se les suministran para

instruirse en la materia. No sólo la Universidad de Yale, sino también la de Columbia, Cornell, la de Wisconsin, la de Illinios, la de California y la de Wáshington, se proponen inaugurar cursos de instrucción para el creciente número de jóvenes que desean estudiar el castellano y ponerse al corriente de la historia y el desarrollo de nuestras Repúblicas hermanas. Se espera que todos los establecimientos docentes superiores de este país sigan el ejemplo de las precitadas universidades y colegios, y esta Oficina tendrá sumo gusto en cooperar con ellos en todo lo que le sea posible.

LOS CLUBS Y COLEGIOS COSMOPOLITAS.

Existe una organización que apenas se conoce en toda la América, que está llevando á cabo una obra excelente en los establecimientos docentes de los Estados Unidos, en pro del desarrollo de vínculos de amistad más íntimos entre los estudiantes de países extranjeros y los de los Estados Unidos que concurren á las mismas instituciones docentes. Dicha organización se denomina, con mucha propiedad, el "Club Cosmopolita," y entre sus miembros se cuentan no sólo estudiantes del extranjero que concurren á las instituciones docentes de los Estados Unidos, sino también cierta proporción de jóvenes de este último país que están muy interesados en los asuntos de los países extranjeros. Dicho club ha trabajado con éxito dondequiera que se ha organizado, pero todavía está en la infancia de sus posibilidades. Toda influencia que rodee á los jóvenes procedentes de países extranjeros que vengan á los Estados Unidos y que contribuya á que adquieran el mejor conocimiento acerca de este país, no puede dejar de instruír tanto á los extranjeros como á los hijos del país respecto de sus respectivas partes del mundo. Es muy probable que la ignorancia entre los estudiantes de los Estados Unidos acerca de la América Latina sea mayor que entre los estudiantes procedentes de la América Latina acerca de los Estados Unidos, y por consecuencia, los beneficios que han de derivarse del establecimiento de este club resultan evidentes. La Oficina Internacional hace sinceros votos por la prosperidad de dicho club y desea que adquiera un gran número de socios. En esta edición del Boletín se publica una relación enviada á esta Oficina por uno de los funcionarios de dicho club, y en la cual se describen su organización y el fin con que ha sido creado.

EL CONGRESO CIENTÍFICO PAN-AMERICANO.

El 17 de febrero el Consejo Directivo de la Oficina Internacional celebró una reunión importante pero informal, para tomar en consideración el programa del Congreso Científico Pan-Americano que

se ha de reunir en Santiago, Chile, en diciembre de este año. Además de los miembros del Consejo Directivo, hallábanse presentes el Hon. ROBERT BACON, Subsecretario de Estado, que hizo de presidente, y el Prof. L. S. ROWE, de la Universidad de Pensilvania, que fué nombrado miembro de la comisión de los Estados Unidos por los funcionarios que en Chile estaban encargados del Congreso.

LA AMÉRICA LATINA EN FILADELFIA.

El 20 de marzo se celebró una reunión muy interesante en Filadelfia, bajo los auspicios de la Academia Americana de Ciencia Política y Social, presidida por el Director de la Oficina Internacional, á la cual concurrieron varios representantes diplomáticos de la América Latina. El rasgo principal de dicha reunión fué el importante y erudito discurso que pronunció el Prof. L. S. ROWE, que trabaja con tanta fidelidad y éxito por fomentar relaciones más íntimas, sobre todo desde el punto de vista intelectual y de educación, entre los Estados Unidos y sus Repúblicas hermanas.

UNA NUEVA REVISTA CONSAGRADA Á LOS ASUNTOS LATINOAMERICANOS.

La redacción de la revista intitulada "The World To-Day," que es una de las revistas principales de este país, merece ser felicitada por su proyecto de publicar una edición española con el título de "El Mundo de Hoy," que tiene por objeto obtener una gran circulación en todos los ámbitos de los países latinoamericanos. Á esta oficina se le ha informado que los directores de dicha revista están haciendo grandes preparativos, á fin de que esta iniciativa por su parte no fracase, como han fracasado muchas que ya se han hecho y que no fueron objeto de la debida consideración. Hasta ahora el gran inconveniente ha consistido en que la compañía que publicaba una revista no tenía la experiencia ni el capital suficiente, ó no conocía la índole del pueblo latinoamericano ni la clase de lectura y las condiciones que éste prefiere, tratándose de una revista de esta clase. Si el programa que "The World To-Day" anuncia en su prospecto se lleva á cabo, sus iniciadores merecen que el éxito corone sus esfuerzos.

EL ARTÍCULO ESCRITO POR EL SEÑOR CREELMAN ACERCA DEL PRESIDENTE DÍAZ.

Entre los muchos artículos que se han escrito acerca del General Díaz, Presidente de México, el que ha publicado el Sr. JAMES CREELMAN en la edición de marzo de la revista intitulada "Pearson's

Magazine," sobresale de una manera muy notable como la mejor semblanza que acaso se ha escrito de este gran estadista por una autoridad competente. Este trabajo es un retrato á pluma del Presidente de México, y el que lo lea tendrá una idea exacta de la personalidad del General Díaz y podrá apreciar cumplidamente lo que ha hecho por su país.

El Señor Creelman ha tenido una gran práctica en la materia, puesto que ha celebrado entrevistas con los grandes personajes del mundo, y ha retratado sus rasgos característicos de manera que el mundo entero llega á conocerles, y lo que escribe respecto del General Díaz no puede ser más interesante. La opinión que Señor Creelman tiene de la obra del General Díaz como regenerador de una nación, y el puesto que debe ocupar en la historia, así como el detenido análisis que hace de la personalidad de Díaz, convencen al lector de que la semblanza de que se trata es verídica y está hábilmente escrita.

BANQUETE DE DESPEDIDA AL SEÑOR PULIDO.

Antes de volver á su país, el Señor Don Augusto F. Pulido, por muchos años al servicio diplomático de Venezuela en Washington, fué objeto de una espléndida manifestación por parte de los miembros del "Metropolitan Club," de esta ciudad, que representa lo más selecto en los círculos sociales, diplomáticos, bancarios y políticos de los Estados Unidos.

En el banquete de despedida que se dió en honor del Señor Pulido, se le presentó una hermosa copa de plata, con una dedicatoria apropiada y facsímiles de las firmas de los ochenta miembros del Club que contribuyeron á la demostración de aprecio por el Señor Pulido.

VIAJE CIRCULAR DE LA AMÉRICA DEL SUR.

Una prueba del creciente interés que se advierte entre los viajeros que van á la América del Sur la constituye una circular que acaban de publicar Busk y Jevons, agentes generales de la Compañía de Vapores de Lamport y Holt, la cual circular se intitula "Viaje Circular Especial de la América del Sur, de Nueva York á Bahía, de Bahía á Río de Janeiro, de Río de Janeiro á Santos, de Santos á Montevideo, de Montevideo á Buenos Aires, y de Buenos Aires á través de los Andes por ferrocarril hasta Valparaíso, de Valparaíso por vapor á Panamá, á través del Istmo hasta Colón, y desde allí á Nueva York, ó vice-versa.

Se dice que este extenso viaje puede hacerse con la suma relativamente pequeña de $475, incluyendo las comidas y camarotes en los vapores y pasaje de primera clase en los ferrocarriles. En la última edición del Boletín se publicaron fotografías de uno de los nuevos

vapores de esta línea, que salen una vez al mes para Montevideo y Buenos Aires, vía Río de Janeiro. Hacen la travesía á Río de Janeiro en dieciseis días y á Buenos Aires en veinticuatro días.

LAS RUTAS COMERCIALES DE LA AMÉRICA DEL SUR.

En una edición reciente de la Revista de Dunn, se publicó un artículo muy interesante, escrito por el Prof. J. RUSSELL SMITH, relativo á las rutas comerciales de la América del Sur proporcionadas por las vías fluviales en conexión con las líneas de ferrocarril. En vista de las muchas preguntas que se le hacen á esta Oficina sobre este particular, se ha juzgado conveniente reproducir algunos extractos de este artículo en este número del BOLETÍN.

PROGRESO ARGENTINO EN 1907.

Los informes oficiales que llegan de la República Argentina y que comprenden el año de 1907, indican la continuación de las condiciones de prosperidad que predominaron en 1906 en todos los ámbitos del país. Las cifras que se refieren al comercio extranjero arrojan un aumento de cerca de $20,000,000 en el valor de dicho comercio, é indican, asimismo, que el valor de las exportaciones de dicha República excedió en más de $10,000,000 al de las importaciones. La estadística de inmigración anuncia la llegada de 329,122 inmigrantes; las transacciones bancarias muestran una mejora respecto de las que se citaron el 30 de junio de 1907, puesto que el balance del Banco de la Nación Argentina indica un estado sumamente satisfactorio. En la actualidad el expresado banco tiene 104 sucursales en todo el país, con probabilidades de aumentar el número de éstas en el corriente año. En la capital las operaciones que se hicieron para construcciones de edificios en general durante el año, representaron un valor de $79,033,833 en papel moneda, ó sea un aumento de más de $20,000,000 en comparación con 1906, en tanto que la renta de aduana de Buenos Aires mostró un aumento de $943,882 en oro. Dícese que la cosecha de trigo y de linaza compensan la merma relativa de la producción de maíz, y que los ferrocarriles han hecho los debidos preparativos para el transporte de dichos productos.

EL COMERCIO Y LAS INDUSTRIAS DE BOLIVIA.

Se llama la atención hacia la diferencia que se anota en esta edición del BOLETÍN, entre las cifras de Bolivia y los Estados Unidos, que se han publicado acerca del comercio entre los dos países. Por ejemplo,

en el valor de la lista de exportaciones de los Estados Unidos correspondiente á 1907, Bolivia sólo representa $1,502,622, al paso que los informes consulares de los embarques que se hicieron de Nueva York y de San Francisco, expresan que el valor ascendió á $2,852,460. La explicación se encuentra, sin duda, en el hecho de que una gran cantidad de las mercancías cuyo destino final es Bolivia, se embarca por puertos chilenos, peruanos y brasileños.

El importante informe que expidió el Departamento de Colonización y Agricultura en agosto de 1907, constituye la base de muchos datos relativos á la República, según se han traducido para su publicación.

PROTECCIÓN ARANCELARIA DE LAS INDUSTRIAS FABRILES DEL BRASIL.

En relación con la proyectada revisión del arancel de aduanas del Brasil, se ha preparado una lista oficial de las industrias fabriles que están en operación en toda la República, como una base para formar una lista proteccionista de precios. El total del capital invertido en fábricas se calcula en $163,349,000, que representan los intereses de 2,397 establecimientos. La producción de tejidos aumenta con rapidez, lo cual explica el hecho de que se advierte una baja en los ingresos de varios países exportadores, y además el Gobierno explota la nueva fibra de Perini con el fin de introducir un rival del algodón en el comercio brasileño.

El cultivo y las exportaciones de café, con arreglo al nuevo sistema de valorización, muestran un aumento de valor, y en 1907 se obtuvo un aumento de más de $100,000,000, y de más de 1,000,000 de sacos, en comparación con el año anterior. En el año de referencia, los Estados Unidos consumieron 77.34 por ciento del café brasileño, ó sean 727,187,465 libras, de un total de 940,247,312 libras á que ascendió el consumo de los Estados Unidos.

EL INFORME DE COSTA RICA SOBRE LA CONFERENCIA DE PAZ CENTRO-AMERICANA.

La aprobación y ratificación, por el Gobierno de Costa Rica, de los varios tratados y convenciones que fueron firmados en el Conferencia de Paz Centro-Americana que se celebró en Wáshington en el último mes de 1907, hace que resulte especialmente interesante la relación presentada al Congreso Nacional por el Sr. Don Luis Anderson, Secretario de Relaciones Exteriores de la República y Presidente de dicha Conferencia. Dicha relación se reproduce por considerarse valiosa y pertinente.

LA RENTA Y EL DESARROLLO CUBANOS.

La renta cubana que se cobró en 1907 ascendió á $29,118,827, recaudada mayormente en el puerto de la Habana. Esta relación resulta interesante en conexión con el plan que se promulgó recientemente para llevar á cabo el pavimento y alcantarillado de la ciudad de la Habana, cuyo costo se ha de pagar con un 10 por ciento de la renta de aduana de dicho puerto. Se han de necesitar seis años para completar la obra, y se calcula que el 10 por ciento de los ingresos que se han de obtener durante dicho período ascenderán á $12,000,000. El 28 de febrero de 1908 se declararon vigentes varias modificaciones del arancel de aduana de la República, que comprenden principalmenta la maquinaria y aparatos para la industria azucarera y otras análogas.

IMPORTANTE TRATADO CELEBRADO ENTRE COLOMBIA Y EL ECUADOR.

El hecho de haberse firmado un Tratado de Amistad, Comercio y Navegación por los Gobiernos de Colombia y Ecuador, y el canje de ratificaciones del mismo el 24 de octubre de 1907, indican una era importante en el desarrollo de ambas Repúblicas. La colonia colombiana en el Ecuador asciende á más de 40,000 almas, y el tratado de referencia abraza todas las cuestiones de derecho internacional que pudieran surgir entre países que están tan íntimamente ligados por vínculos naturales.

EL DESARROLLO DE LA COMUNICACIÓNES EN CHILE.

El Gobierno Chileno está consagrando especial atención al importante ramo de los medios de comunicación pública, como lo demuestra el decreto que fué promulgado en enero de 1908, que prescribe la construcción de un ferrocarril longitudinal cuyo costo ascenderá á $37,000,000, y la asignación de $15,500,000 para emplearse en líneas del Gobierno durante el año. El 1° de julio de 1907, de los 927,639 kilómetros de ferrocarriles que las autoridades nacionales habían proyectado construir, la Oficina de Obras Públicas había trazado 707,233 kilómetros. En idéntica proporción se fomenta el desarrollo del servicio de la marina mercante, y en la actualidad entre los países de la América del Sur, el Brasil es el único que tiene un tonelaje mayor que el de los buques chilenos, que representan un tonelaje total de 156,316 toneladas.

EL COMERCIO Y LAS CONDICIONES NACIONALES DEL ECUADOR.

En 1907 el valor de los productos naturales del Ecuador, tales como cacao, goma, sombreros, etc., aumentó en los mercados del mundo,

lo cual mejoró las condiciones comerciales, y la extensión del ferrocarril de Puerto Bolivar y Machala hasta los distritos de cacao, ha contribuído á que resulte más fácil el transporte de dicho producto á los puertos de mar. El ferrocarril de Guayaquil y Quito, cuyo contrato con el Gobierno lo está discutiendo una junta arbitral, ha sido objeto de un decreto del Ejecutivo por virtud del cual el pago de los cupones semianuales del 2 de enero y 2 de julio de 1908, y del 2 de enero de 1909, se ha de efectuar mediante una nueva emisión de bonos cuyos fondos se garantizarán con la renta de la sal de la República. En 1906–7 este producto se embarcó con utilidad á los puertos de Colombia.

UN INFORME FRANCÉS SOBRE LAS CONDICIONES EXISTENTES EN GUATEMALA.

El informe que el Encargado de Negocios francés en Guatemala ha hecho relativo á las condiciones actuales en dicha República, por más que se refiere á un período que sólo alcanza á 1906, sin embargo, contiene los últimos detalles que ha sido posible obtener en cuanto á las relaciones comerciales entre dicha República y los varios países del mundo. Por consiguiente, dichos datos se reproducen traducidos casi en su totalidad. En ellos se muestra que, por más que los Estados Unidos suministraron la mitad de los artículos que Guatemala importó, Alemania le supera con mucho como país comprador de productos guatemaltecos. Las cifras citadas se diferencian un tanto de las que publicó la Oficina de Estadística de los Estados Unidos, que anuncia un importante aumento en las importaciones que se hicieron de Guatemala en 1907.

LAS CONDICIONES FINANCIERAS MEXICANAS.

Á fines de 1907 el estado de los 34 bancos legalmente establecidos en México era sumamente satisfactorio, y á lo que parece, la crisis financiera que prevaleció durante todo el año, no los afectó mucho. El documento que recientemente publicó el Señor Limantour, Secretario de Hacienda, relativo á las finanzas mexicanas, ha llamado mucho la atención, y la terminación de las negociaciones de combinación de los ferrocarriles entre el Gobierno y los cuatro bancos internacionales de la ciudad de Nueva York, en conexión con dos casas de Londres, han de ejercer mucha influencia en la situación financiera. Se anuncia un aumento en la renta de aduana en el último período, que comprende siete meses del año de 1907–8, en tanto que se ha obtenido un aumento de más de $14,000,000 en el valor del comercio

en los cinco primeros meses del presente año económico, en comparación con el período correspondiente de 1906–7. Los informes consulares acerca de varias industrias del país también indican una perspectiva económica favorable, en tanto que los datos estadísticos relativos al comercio exterior durante el primer semestre de 1907–8 acusan un aumento de $4,800.000 oro en las exportaciones, y de $7,600,000 oro en las importaciones.

CONCESIONES Y MEJORAS EN NICARAGUA.

El Presidente de Nicaragua ha decretado un aumento en la emisión de bonos de exportación para hacer frente al servicio ó pago de la deuda extranjera. La suma original era de $75,000, y en la actualidad se ha aumentado hasta $400,000. En 1907 se cumplieron puntualmente las obligaciones de la deuda, y las mejoras generales que se inauguraron por medio de concesiones para llevar á cabo la explotación de los productos naturales indican la continuación de este estado satisfactorio en el corriente año. Se ha celebrado un contrato para la construcción de un ferrocarril que se extenderá desde San Juan del Sur, por la costa del Pacífico, hasta el interior de la República; la bahía del Río Grande se ha de dragar y se mejorarán los medios de navegación, en tanto que se han hecho concesiones para la explotación de minerales y de gutapercha, por virtud de las cuales se aumentarán grandemente los ingresos del Gobierno.

COMERCIO EXTRANJERO DE PANAMÁ EN 1907.

El valor total del comercio extranjero de la República de Panamá en 1907 ascendió á $19,165,648.69, según el informe que ha hecho el Departamento del Tesoro de dicho Gobierno. En la lista de importaciones los Estados Unidos representan un valor de $5,196,964.38, de un total de $17,204,983.77, sin incluír $7,640,533.86, que representan las importaciones que se hicieron de Nueva York á la Zona del Canal, las cuales no pagaron derechos. Durante el expresado año la estadística de los Estados Unidos muestra que el valor de los embarques que se hicieron á Panamá ascendió á $18,665,323.

El valor de todas las exportaciones ascendió á $1,960,664.92, mostrándose así un aumento de $842,543.92. Los Estados Unidos son prácticamente los únicos que reciben productos de Panamá.

ESTÍMULO DEL CONTACTO INTERNACIONAL MEDIANTE LA EDUCACIÓN.

Que la propaganda establecida por el Señor KELLOGG, Cónsul de los Estados Unidos en Colón, en pro de los conocimientos de los

habitantes de Panamá acerca del país que él representa está dando buenos resultados, lo demuestra las fotografías—que se reproducen en esta edición del BOLETÍN—de los que obtuvieron los premios que el Señor KELLOGG ofreció en las escuelas del país por la mejor disertación sobre los Estados Unidos. El Cónsul KELLOGG anuncia que esta oposición ha estimulado mucho el estudio del inglés y de las instituciones de los Estados Unidos, y considera esta enseñanza como la única base verdadera sobre la cual deben descansar las relaciones sociales y comerciales entre los dos países interesados.

AUMENTO DE LA RENTA DE ADUANA Y DESARROLLO FERROVIARIO EN EL PERÚ.

Mollendo, que es el segundo puerto de entrada del Perú, en los cuatro últimos años anuncia un aumento constanto en la renta de aduana que hasta 1904 sólo había llegado á $675,000, en tanto que en 1907 ascendió á $900,000, al paso que el Callao en el primer semestre de dicho año cobró más de $1,500,000, lo cual arroja un total de más de $3,000,000. El Sr. CHARLES M. PEPPER, en un valioso informe que ha hecho sobre la construcción de ferrocarriles en dicha República, dice que el tesoro del Perú ha manejado sus recursos en cuanto á la construcción de ferrocarriles con gran prudencia, y que se han hecho amplias asignaciones para hacer frente á todas las obligaciones contraídas para completar tanto las prolongaciones que ya están en vías de construcción como las que el Congreso ha autorizado.

EL COMERCIO Y LOS RECURSOS DEL SALVADOR.

En los nueve primeros meses de 1907 el valor total de las exportaciones que se hicieron del Salvador ascendió aproximadamente á $6,000,000, de los cuales los Estados Unidos compraron á dicha República productos por valor de $1,592,473 en dicho año. Las cifras del Salvador parecen indicar que se hicieron mayores embarques durante todo el año á los Estados Unidos, puesto que el valor de las exportaciones que se hicieron á este último país en los nueve meses se calculó en más de $2,000,000.

Durante el año de referencia, la renta derivada de los servicios de telégrafo y teléfono del país muestra un aumento de más $1,000, en tanto que un importante documento que ha proporcionado el Sr. ERNEST SCHERNIKOW, Cónsul del Salvador en Nueva York, indica el estado floreciente de la industria minera y los espléndidos resultados que se han obtenido en estos últimos años.

LAS FINANZAS Y EL PROGRESO ECONÓMICO DEL URUGUAY.

En el año económico de 1907 se anunció un sobrante de más de $2,000,000 en el Tesoro de la República del Uruguay, en tanto que las rentas que se recaudaron en ese mismo año muestran un aumento de cerca de $6,000,000, respecto de 1906. Por más que la renta de aduana del año común no indica un aumento tan grande como el que se obtuvo en los dos años anteriores, el total constituye una suma sin precedente desde 1894, por cuanto excede de $13,000,000. El pago de la deuda del país se hizo con prontitud durante todo el año.

NUEVA LEY ARANCELARIA DE VENEZUELA.

El día 13 de enero de 1908, se promulgó y declaró vigente en la "Gaceta Oficial" de la República una nueva ley arancelaria de Venezuela.

LA APROBACIÓN DE LAS CONVENCIONES DE LA CONFERENCIA DE PAZ CENTRO-AMERICANA.

Al Departamento de Estado de los Estados Unidos se le ha anunciado la aprobación—por los varios cuerpos legislativos de los Gobiernos Centro-Americanos—de las convenciones acordadas en la Conferencia de Paz que se celebró en Wáshington en el mes de diciembre de 1907, en las siguientes fechas:

Nicaragua, febrero 15 de 1908; Costa Rica, febrero 25 de 1908; Salvador, febrero 27 de 1908; Honduras, marzo 3 de 1908; Guatemala, marzo 13 de 1908.

LOS TRABAJOS DE LA ASOCIACIÓN NACIONAL DE FABRICANTES.

La Asociación Nacional de Fabricantes de los Estados Unidos de América, al hacerle una relación á la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas, en cuanto al alcance de sus trabajos, anuncia que de las 25,000 cartas y documentos que dicha asociación ha traducido en el curso del año, como dos quintas partes ó 10,000 de ellos, eran de origen español ó traducidos de dicho idioma.

Una gran proporción de los 7,000 informes que se distribuyen anualmente sobre casas de comercio extranjeras, se relacionan con razones sociales en los países latinoamericanos, al paso que todos los ramos del comercio internacional se estimulan por medio de una extensa correspondencia que se sostiene con todas las partes del globo.

Un medio eficaz de ayudar á todas las clases de hombres de negocios consiste en distribuír el "American Trade Index" (Indice del Comercio Americano) del cual se tira una edición anual de 12,000 ejemplares, de los cuales se distribuyen 8,000 en el extranjero.

LA ASOCIACIÓN DE CLUBS COSMOPOLITAS.

La Universidad de Wisconsin, como asiento de la sucursal ejecutiva de la Asociación de Clubs Cosmopolitas, se ha puesto en comunicación con más de veinte colegios de los Estados Unidos, con el fin de despertar un interés mucho mayor en dicha organización.

Esta iniciativa se encamina á organizar clubs cosmopolitas en todos los colegios de todos los países donde haya estudiantes extranjeros, para formar el núcleo de dicho club; unir á dicha asociación los clubs de índole cosmopolita que ya se hayan formado; cultivar el arte de la paz y establecer poderosas relaciones de amistad internacionales.

El primer club de esta clase fué organizado en la Universidad de Michigan en 1903, gracias á la iniciativa de 18 estudiantes extranjeros, y desde esa época el número de sus miembros ha ascendido á 80, habiendo ejercido su influencia para establecer permanentemente dichos clubs, que están llamados á constituír una potencia en la vida estudiantil.

Junto con las otras siete universidades que se han asociado á esta inciativa, la Universidad de Wisconsin celebró su primera convención anual en diciembre de 1907, fecha en que se acordó hacer una propaganda general con el fin de establecer relaciones más íntimas entre los clubs en todos los países, por medio de una correspondencia provechosa y un canje de publicaciones.

Ya se ha comenzado la comunicación sobre este asunto con las universidades del Canadá, la de Oxford de Inglaterra, la de Bonn y Berlín de Alemania, y la Universidad de París, así como los principales colegios y universidades de los Estados Unidos. En la actualidad hay clubs cosmopolitas en Europa y en la América del Sur, cuya incorporación en la asociación de clubs cosmopolitas daría un gran impulso á la causa de la cordialidad internacional cuyo último resultado sería probablemente la celebración de convenciones continentales en diferentes regiones del mundo.

LOS CURSOS EN LA UNIVERSIDAD DE YALE SOBRE LA AMÉRICA DEL SUR.

La Universidad de Yale, establecida en New Haven, Estado de Connecticut, le ha proporcionado á la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas una interesante relación acerca de los varios

cursos que se siguen en dicha Universidad que se relacionan directa ó indirectamente con los asuntos sudamericanos.

Se considera muy conveniente no sólo desde el punto de vista de los estudiantes sudamericanos, sino también desde el punto de vista de los norteamericanos, que al elemento extranjero de la Universidad se le agregue un grupo de latinoamericanos. Recientemente dicho establecimiento docente adquirió—por medio de una dádiva—dos importantes bibliotecas sobre asuntos sudamericanos, á saber: La de Wagner y la de Bingham, al paso que el Museo Hispánico de la Ciudad de Nueva York le ha ofrecido á los estudiantes que están más avanzados en sus estudios el derecho de usar su bibloteca y colección de obras. El Club Hispánico de Yale sostiene discusiones sobre la historia, comercio, literatura y otros temas sudamericanos, en las reuniones que celebra, al paso que prominentes eruditos dan conferencias durante todo el año sobre asuntos hispanos.

Los cursos más importantes que se han propuesto sobre los asuntos de referencia se han agrupado de la manera siguiente:

Curso elemental de español; prosa española de los siglos décimosexto y décimoséptimo, reseña general de la literatura española; principio de la literatura española; la literatura portuguesa; curso elemental de portugués en la escuela para el servicio comercial y consular; lectura y composición en español; el drama español en los siglos décimosexto y décimoséptimo un curso elemental de español; estudios mayores del español para los estudiantes de escuelas científicas; historia de la América española; historia y geografía de la América del Sur, y un curso sobre la geografía regional de la América del Sur.

En una de las clases ya hay 120 estudiantes.

Además de lo que queda expuesto, hay ciertos cursos que tratan en gran manera, aunque no principalmente, de asuntos sudamericanos, que comprenden la historia americana primitiva y las colonias españolas; colonización y antropología, geología, geografía comercial y derecho romano.

El Secretario de la Universidad ha publicado la siguiente carta en españoly portugués, en la cual se hace una reseña del plan de acción y de los fines de la facultad en relación con dichos cursos:

"UNIVERSIDAD DE YALE,
"NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT,
"ESTADOS UNIDOS DE AMÉRICA.

"ESTIMADO SEÑOR: Al enviar á V. junto con ésta el catálogo de Yale, las autoridades de la universidad desean expresar su vivo interés por el movimiento que trata de poner en contacto más íntimo á los estudiantes de ambas Américas. Tenemos la profunda convicción de que la residencia de estudiantes de los países del sur en una de las más importantes instituciones de Norte-América, además de las

ventajas que para ellos reportaría, nos ayudaría poderosamente en el sentido de facilitar á nuestros jóvenes, que más tarde dirigirán los negocios de nuestro país, la comprensión de los ideales y del carácter de nuestros vecinos sudamericanos.

"Hay ciertos hechos referentes á la Universidad de Yale, que pueden ser de interés para los estudiantes de Sud-América, que deseen venir á hacer estudios universitarios á América del Norte.

"(1) New Haven, en el Estado de Connecticut, residencia de la universidad, se encuentra á una hora y media, por ferrocarril, de New York, que es el puerto de llegada para las principales líneas de vapores que parten de Sud-América para el norte. Esta proximidad á la metrópoli tiene además la ventaja desde el punto de vista de un estudiante extranjero, de permitirle estar en contacto con la vida actual del país. Por otra parte, New Haven no está lejos de la capital, Wáshington, á donde se puede llegar en más ó menos ocho horas, por varios trenes, que corren diariamente.

"(2) La Universidad de Yale es un asiento histórico del saber; se fundó en 1701. Su historia ha sido asociada íntimamente con la del país desde el principio, y este hecho, además de darle renombre entre las universidades de Norte-América, le presta cierta atmósfera de dignidad, que atrae á estudiantes que vienen de países con una civilización más vieja. En su segundo centenario (1901) estuvieron presentes delegados de las instituciones más avanzadas de Europa.

"(3) La universidad es enteramente tolerante en materias religiosas.

"(4) La universadid de Yale incluye los siguientes departamentos de estudio: El Colegio de artes liberales, que corresponde á la Facultad de filosofía y letras de las universidades de Sud-América; la Escuela científica de Sheffield, que comprende todos los ramos científicos, especialmente los de ingeniería, cuyos cursos son los más sólidos; una sección de graduados bajo la facultad de los dos primeros departamentos, y en la que se consiguen los grados más altos de magister artium (correspondiendo en algo al grado de licenciado) y de doctor en filosofía; el departamento de derecho; el departamento de medicina; el departamento de teología; además hay una escuela de bellas artes, con un departamento de música; una sección para ingenieros de montes, y una escuela especial durante las vacaciones de verano.

"(5) La universidad ha estado siempre en contacto especial con la literatura, lengua é historia de los pueblos neolatinos; se dan varios cursos en español, portugués, italiano, francés, provenzal, etc.

"Frecuentemente durante el semestre hay conferencias dadas por distinguidos visitantes del extranjero, como últimamente por M. Brunetière, M. Édouard Rod, y el Profesor Le Braz en materia de literatura; ó por el ilustre Profesor Thompson y el Profesor Rutherford, sobre los descubrimientos recientes en el campo científico. La

biblioteca de la universidad, que contiene cerca de 400,000 volúmenes, es rica en la literatura é historia de la Europa meridional; además, una gran colección de cuadros antiguos italianos y españoles, incluyendo obras maestras, originales de Andrea del Sarto, Botticelli, Correggio y otras contenidas en la escuela de bellas artes, agregan mucho al renombre de la universidad.

"Los gastos para un año varían grandemente de acuerdo con las necesidades del estudiante. Mil pesos oro americano pueden bastar para cubrir fácilmente todos los gastos incluyendo enseñanza, casa, comida, gastos personales, etc. La universidad reconocerá los títulos expedidos por las universidades sudamericanas, y serán aceptados, hasta donde sea posible, en lugar de exámenes de admisión á lás differentes escuelas profesionales de graduados.

"No es probable que haya muchos estudiantes sudamericanos que deseen tomar los cursos designados para los que pretenden solamente el grado de bachiller; aquellos que lo deseen, sin embargo, podrán sustituír su conocimiento de castellano al de francés en los exámenes de admisión.

"El infrascrito tendrá un gran placer en ayudar con todas sus fuerzas, como oficial de la universidad, á los estudiantes sudamericanos. Puede indicar familias privadas en que aquellos, que deseen hacer progresos en inglés antes de asistir á la universidad, tendrán excelente oportunidad para oír y hablar esa lengua. Recomendará escuelas especiales á aquellos estudiantes que deseen prepararse en Estados Unidos para entrar á la Universidad de Yale.

"S. E. Mr. Elihu Root, doctor en leyes, Secretario de Estado de los Estados Unidos, y el Iltmo. y Redmo, Señor Arzobispo de St. Paul, Monseñor John Ireland, doctor en leyes, ambos graduados honorarios de Yale, han manifestado su disposición para ser consultados en lo referente á la universidad.

"Anson Phelps Stokes, Jr.,
"*Secretario de la Universidad de Yale.*"

VIAJE DE LA ARMADA DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS DE VALPARAÍSO AL CALLAO.

La armada de los Estados Unidos, bajo el mando del Almirante Robley D. Evans, después de pasar frente al puerto de Valparaíso, Chile, donde el 14 de febrero desfiló en gran parada ante el Presidente Montt, acompañado de su gabinete y de otros ciudadanos prominentes que iban á bordo del buque de guerra chileno "Baquedano," siguió en su viaje al Callao.

Inmeditamente después de la parada el Presidente MONTT envió el siguiente cablegrama al Presidente ROOSEVELT:

"VALPARAÍSO, *febrero 14 de 1908.*

"Presidente ROOSEVELT, *Wáshington:*

"Acabo de presenciar el desfile de la poderosa escuadra que al mando del Almirante EVANS lleva el pabellón americano en el Pacífico, y he podido admirar de cerca una de las manifestaciones más espléndidas que en todo orden alcanzan los Estados Unidos de América. El saludo especial hecho hoy á nuestra bandera significa una demostración de cordial amistad al pueblo chileno que agradezco y retribuyo en su nombre haciendo votos por la prosperidad constante de los Estados Unidos y la felicidad de su ilustre Presidente.

PEDRO MONTT."

Á este cordialísimo mensaje el Presidente ROOSEVELT contestó como sigue:

"WASHINGTON, *febrero 15 de 1908.*

"Excmo. Sr. Don PEDRO MONTT,

"*Presidente de Chile, Santiago:*

"Agradezco el amistoso mensaje de Vuestra Excelencia. Mis conciudadanos consideran el vivo interés demostrado por el pueblo chileno en la gran parada de los buques americanos y el canje de cortesías navales, como una nueva prueba de cordialidad entre los dos países. Ofresco á Vuestra Excelencia mis amistosos saludos y los sinceros votos del pueblo americano por el bienestar de Chile.

"THÈODORE ROOSEVELT."

Seis días después, en la mañana del 20 de febrero, la armada americana ancló en la bahía del Callao, Perú. Á una distancia de 250 millas hacia el sur, se le había unido el crucero peruano "Coronel Bologuesí," que era portador de la primera bienvenida oficial del Perú. Con todos los atavíos de un día de fiesta, millares de ciudadanos del Callao y de Lima se habían reunido para divisar primero el buque que iba á la vanguardia, y cuando el "Bologuesí" entró en la bahía á la cabeza de la armada en fila, no fué necesario el estampido de los cañonazos de saludo para anunciar la llegada de la gran escuadra. La multitud entusiástica que iba á bordo de vapores de excursión, así como la que se hallaba en los muelles y al pie de las colinas que dan á la ciudad, enviaron grandes aclamaciones de bienvenida á los buques y á sus tripulaciones procedentes de la República hermana del Norte.

El Almirante EVANS, junto con la armada, permaneció nueve días en el Callao, hasta el 29 de febrero. Durante este tiempo, tanto el Gobierno peruano como el pueblo del Callao y de Lima les dispensaron toda clase de atenciones á los oficiales y tripulación de la armada. El 21 de febrero el Presidente PARDO recibió á los oficiales de los

buques americanos, y el siguiente día, que fué el cumpleaños de George Washington, les dió un banquete. Además de los doscientos cincuenta oficiales americanos, hallábase presente un gran número de prominentes personajes, entre los cuales se encontraban el Hon. LESLIE COMBS, Ministro de los Estados Unidos en el Perú, y otros miembros del Cuerpo Diplomático.

El día 23, el Presidente PARDO salió de Lima para el Callao y visitó la flota. Fué recibido por el Almirante EVANS á bordo del buque-insignia "Connecticut," y entonces todos los buques de la armada hicieron un saludo nacional en honor del Presidente PARDO.

Á su regreso á Lima el Presidente PARDO envió el siguiente cablegrama:

"LIMA, *febrero 24 de 1908.*

"Presidente ROOSEVELT, *Washington:*

"Acabo de visitar el buque almirante "Connecticut" y de revistar toda la gran escuadra que manda el Almirante EVANS, y tengo la satisfacción de expresar á Vuestra Excelencia mi admiración por el imponderable estado en que se encuentran todos los buques y por el entusiasmo y energía de las tripulaciones. La escuadra que nos visita representa dignamente el poder y la grandeza de los Estados Unidos, y sus tripulantes son fraternalmente acogidos en el Perú.

"JOSÉ PARDO,
"*Presidente del Peru.*"

Á este mensaje de cordialidad internacional el Presidente ROOSEVELT contestó como sigue:

"WÁSHINGTON, *febrero 24 de 1908.*

"Excmo. Sr. Don JOSÉ PARDO,
"*Presidente del Perú, Lima.*

"Me ha sido muy grato recibir vuestro cablegrama de hoy, y agradezco profundamente los encomiásticos comentarios que hace Vuestra Excelencia acerca de la armada americana. La entusiástica bienvenida y amistosas demostraciones en el Callao han complacido y conmovido al pueblo americano que siempre sintió una sincera estimación por el pueblo peruano. Dígnese Vuestra Excelencia aceptar las seguridades de mi alta consideración y sincera estima junto con la de mi pueblo.

"THEODORE ROOSEVELT,
"*Presidente de los Estados Unidos de América.*"

El 29 de febrero la armada salió en dirección al Callao, y dos días después el Presidente ROOSEVELT envió el siguiente cablegrama:

"WÁSHINGTON, *marzo 2 de 1908.*

"Excmo. Sr. Don JOSÉ PARDO,
"*Presidente del Perú, Lima.*

"La cordial bienvenida que se le dió á la armada, seguida de la espléndida recepción y agasajos de sus oficiales y tripulación en tierra,

así como su trato amistoso y canje de cumplidos con los peruanos, le han proporcionado verdadera satisfacción y placer al Gobierno y pueblo americanos. Al abondonar las hospitalarias playas del Perú, la armada se llevará consigo recuerdos imperecederos de las bondadosas atenciones de que fué objeto. Al reiterar á Vuestra Excelencia las seguridades de mi cordial gratitud, os pido que aceptéis mis sinceros votos por vuestro bienestar personal y por la prosperidad de vuestro país.

"THEODORE ROOSEVELT,
"*Presidente de los Estados Unidos.*"

La escuadra americana entró en la Bahía de Magdalena, situada en la Costa de México, el día 12 de marzo, en las primeras horas de la mañana.

LA PRODUCCIÓN DE CAFÉ EN LA AMÉRICA CENTRAL EN 1906–7.

La producción de café en las varias Repúblicas Centro-Americanas en 1906–7, se calcula de la manera siguiente: Guatemala, 600,000 quintales; Nicaragua, 137,000 quintales; Salvador, 500,000 quintales, y Costa Rica, 160,000 sacos.

La producción de Nicaragua muestra una disminución de 34,500 quintales, en tanto que la de Guatemala no muestra ningún cambio.

La siguiente tabla muestra la exportación de café en 1906:

	Quintales.
Guatemala	580,000
Salvador	550,000
Costa Rica	249,000
Nicaragua	150,000

El café de la América Central se considera como uno de los mejores del mundo, y en prueba de este aserto basta tener presente los precios que obtiene en los principales mercados del orbe entero. El café se recoge por lo general de octubre á marzo, según la elevación del terreno, y la exportación de dicho producto comienza en febrero y dura hasta octubre. Los derechos sobre el café que se exporta á Inglaterra son 34.80 francos, ó sean $6.96, por cada 100 kilogramos, y 136 francos ($27.20) sobre el que se exporta á Francia. En Costa Rica el café se cultiva especialmente en la costa del Pacífico en los siguientes Departamentos: San José, Alajuela y Cartago.

En 1892, de una población de 183,000 habitantes que había en estos Departamentos, existía un cafetal por cada 23 habitantes, ó sean 182 cafetos que producían 92 kilogramos de café por cada habitante, y en 1905 había 30,200 hectáreas sembradas de café.

El 30 de septiembre de 1906, las exportaciones de café de Costa Rica ascendían á 13,774,258 kilogramos, de los cuales la mitad aproximadamente estaba descascarada y el resto sin descascarar. Los puertos extranjeros que importan café de Costa Rica fueron los siguientes, en el orden de su importancia: Londres, 76 por ciento; Hamburgo, 11 por ciento; Nueva Orleans y Nueva York, 9 por ciento; Burdeos y el Havre, 3 por ciento, y luego siguen Trieste, Montreal, Barcelona, Génova y Valparaíso.

La clase superior denominada caracolillo se remite á Londres, donde obtiene un subido precio, pero todivía obtendría precios más altos en el Havre ó en París, adonde únicamente se remiten las clases más inferiores en pequeñas cantidades.

Los puertos de embarque de Costa Rica son Puerto Limón y Puntarenas: Por el primero en 1906 se embarcaron 13,035,780 kilogramos, y por el segundo se embarcaron 738,478 kilogramos.

San Francisco, Nueva Orleans y Nueva York, son los tres mercados para dicho producto en los Estados Unidos, pero Nueva York es el más importante de los tres, así como Hamburgo, Londres y el Havre son los tres mercados europeos más importantes para el café. Londres no es un gran centro de consumo ni de abastecimiento, pero no obstante, la mejor clase de café centroamericano se encuentra en Tower-Dock, y á dicho punto acuden los importantes mercados europeos, incluso el Havre, que por lo general se encuentra mejor surtido que otros, cuando existe una gran demanda del expresado producto.

Por más que el Havre es el primer mercado de Francia, y acaso de toda la Europa, para el café centroamericano, Burdeos y Marsella también son buenos mercados.

Por virtud de un tratado comercial que los diferentes Estados Centro-Americanos celebraron con Francia, el café que se importe directamente de dichos países á Francia, disfruta de las franquicias concedidas á las naciones más favorecidas, y por consecuencia, sólo paga 136 francos por cada 100 kilogramos, que es el derecho mínimo que se le impone al café, debiendo agregarse que estos derechos no los pagan los exportadores americanos, sino únicamente los compradores franceses; pero á fin de obtener esta franquicia, es necesario enviar el café con un conocimiento directamente á Francia, acompañado de un certificado debidamente legalizado, en el cual deberá expresarse su origen centroamericano.

Los cafetales más importantes de Guatemala se encuentran en la costa del Pacífico. Los principales centros de cultivo, en el orden de su importancia, son los siguientes: Costa Cuca, que produce 100,000 quintales; Barberena que produce 65,000 quintales; Pochuta, Costa Grande, Costa del Cucho y Tumador, 60,000 quintales; Chuva, 50,000 quintales; Xolhuitz, 41,000 quintales; Chicacoa, 35,000 quintales;

Malacatán, 30,000 quintales; San Marcos, Panán, Escuintla y Fuego, 25,000 quintales; Moran, 16,000 quintales; La Antigua, San Vicente y Pacaya, 15,000 quintales; Amititlán, Sumatán, 12,000 quintales; Zunil, 10,000 quintales. En la costa del Atlántico Coban y Alta Verapaz producen 40,000 quintales; el valle de Montagua, 4,000 quintales, y el Departamento de Santa Rosa, 2,000 quintales.

Se cobra un derecho de exportación de $1 oro, ó $6 en papel moneda, por quintal de 46 kilogramos, sobre el café descascarado, y proporcionalmente por el quintal de café sin descascarar. El flete marítimo por el café de la costa del Pacífico de Guatemala al Havre es como 75 francos por cada 100 kilogramos.

El término medio de la producción anual de café de Guatemala es 35,000 kilogramos. Un 52 por ciento de esta cantidad se remitió á los puertos alemanes de Hamburgo y Bremen; un 32.95 por ciento se embarcó para los puertos americanos de San Francisco, Nueva York y Nueva Orleans; un 12.760 por ciento se exportó á los puertos ingleses de Liverpool y Londres; 0.614 por ciento se remitió al puerto de Valparaíso, Chile; 0.507 por ciento se envió á Trieste, Austria; 0.244 por ciento á Génova, Italia; 0.233 al Havre y Burdeos, Francia; 0.209 por ciento á Bélice, Honduras Británica. El promedio de 800,000 quintales de café, que se exporta de Guatemala, sale de los siguientes puertos: De Champerico, 505,000 quintales; de San José de Guatemala, 235,000 quintales; de Ocos, 134,000 quintales; de Livingston, 34,000 quintales, y de Puerto Barrios, 2,000 quintales.

En Honduras no se ha desarrollado tanto el cultivo del café como en otros países de la América Central, no porque haya diferencia alguna en el terreno, clima y condiciones generales de Honduras respecto de sus repúblicas hermanas, sino á causa de la falta de medios de comunicación con el interior, y sobre todo á la preferencia que se le da al cultivo de los bananos.

Sin embargo, hay cafetales en los Departamentos de Santa Bárbara, Copán, Corés, La Paz, Choluteca y el Paraíso.

Entre los principales centros de café, pueden mencionarse á Danli, cerca de Tegucigalpa, San Pedro Sula, y San Marcos de Colón, donde hay un importante cafetal.

Honduras produce anualmente como 4,000,000 de kilogramos, de los cuales se exportaron como 2,000,500 de kilogramos. Este café vale como á razón de 25 francos por cada 46 kilogramos en el país, pero los embarques que se han hecho para el Havre y Burdeos de esta clase de café que tiene gran demanda, han obtenido el precio de 55 y 65 francos por cada 50 kilogramos en el almacen.

Los puertos de embarque de café de Honduras son Puerto Cortés, en la costa del Atlántico, para el café que se exporta á los Estados Unidos y á Inglaterra; Amapala, en la costa del Pácifico, para el café que se remite á Hamburgo, Liverpool, el Havre y Burdeos, y las fronteras de Honduras para el que se remite al Salvador.

El café crece en todas partes en Nicaragua, y sobre todo en los puntos más elevados. Según un cálculo aproximado, en la actualidad hay 60,000,000 de cafetos en los varios Departamentos de Nicaragua.

El cultivo del café en los Departamentos próximos á las costas del Atlántico se desarrollaría mucho si los medios de comunicación fuesen mejores y menos costosos. El fomento de nuevos cafetales en esta región se aumentará maravillosamente cuando se construya el ferrocarril de Matagalpa á León, y sobre todo cuando se termine la línea que se ha de extender de San Miguelito á Monkey Point, con ramales hasta Acoyapa.

Nicaragua produce anualmente como 28,000,000 de kilogramos de café, de los cuales se consumen 7,000,000 en el país, quedando así 20,000,000 para la exportación, que se distribuyen de la manera siguiente:

Países de destino.	Kilogramos.
Alemania (vía Estrecho de Magallanes ó Panamá)	8,000,000
Estados Unidos	5,000,000
Inglaterra	3,000,000
Francia	2,500,000
Italia	800,000
Bélgica	500,000
Otros países	1,200,000
Total	21,000,000

los cuales valen de 15,000 á 20,000,000 de francos, ó sean $4,000,000.

Los puertos por los cuáles se embarca el café de Nicaragua son los siguientes: El Puerto de Corinto en la Costa del Pacífico por el cual se embarcan 11.12, y el de San José del Sur, por el cual se embarca el resto que asciende á 1.12.

Es más facil obtener brazos en la Costa del Pacífico que en la del Atlántico, y los sueldos varían entre 20 y 50 centavos por día. El costo de transporte del café desde el interior del país hasta el puerto de embarque, que es Corinto, es bastante moderado en las regiones situadas en la línea del ferrocarril del Pacífico, pero dicho costo es bastante subido cuando se trata del café procedente de Segovia. En 1907 el café al por menor se cotizó en Managua á $32 por quintal por el de primera calidad, y $0.50 por libra. En conformidad con el decreto de 24 de febrero de 1907, el derecho de exportación sobre el café se ha reducido á $2 en moneda nacional que, al tipo de cambio de 630 por ciento, dan un resultado de 150 francos por quintal de 100 libras.

Los obreros que se dedican especialmente á los trabajos en los cafetales están exentos del servicio militar.

En Managua hay varias empresas para descascarar el café.

REPÚBLICA ARGENTINA.

EL COMERCIO EXTERIOR EN 1907.

La Dirección General de Estadística de la República Argentina publicó, á fines de enero de 1908, los datos preliminares relativos al comercio exterior de la nación durante el año de 1907. Según ellos, el valor total del comercio exterior durante el año de referencia fué de $582,065,052 oro, que, en comparación con la de $562,224,450 á que ascendió la de 1906, arroja un aumento de $19,840,602. El saldo á favor de la República es de $10,343,686 oro.

El valor total de las importaciones de 1907 fué de $285,860,683 oro, ó sea $15,890,162 oro más que en 1906. La importación sujeta á derechos alcanzó un valor de $183,399,111 oro, cifra que acusa una disminución de $1,014,155 oro comparada con la de 1906. La importación libre de derechos se avaluó en $102,461,572 que con relación al año anterior arroja un aumento de $16,904,317 oro. Las importaciones de metálico hicieron un valor total de $23,552,726 oro, que, comparado con el de 1906, indica un aumento de $5,340,403.

La exportación total tuvo un valor de $296,204,369 oro, ó sean $3,950,540 más que en 1906. La exportación sujeta á derechos ascendió á $1,808, ó sean $1,763 más que en 1906. La exportación libre de derechos ascendió á $296,202,561 oro que relativamente al año anterior acusa un aumento de $3,948,777 oro. Las exportaciones de metálico ascendieron á $3,133,886 oro, que arroja un aumento sobre el año anterior de $1,588,264.

Las importaciones sujetas á derechos comprenden artículos de consumo, géneros, sombreros, conservas alimenticias, bebidas, artículos de joyería, etc., es decir, que el país ha sido tributario de la industria europea en la proporción de $183,390,111 oro, y por ende ha consumido durante el año 1907, $1,031,469 menos que en 1906. Esta disminución en la importación de artículos sujetos al pago de derechos, resulta contrabalanceada por el monto de las importaciones libres de derechos, las cuales constituyen gastos productivos, ó, para expresarlo con mayor claridad, capital que no se consume porque está representado por material de ferrocarriles, maquinarias é implementos agrícolas, etc., elementos todos destinados á impulsar el desenvolvimiento progresivo del país. En este renglón la República tiene á su favor un aumento de $16,904,317 oro, como se ha expuesto más arriba. Se verá, pues, que este aumento, en vez de deberse á gastos improductivos, es de capital acumulado dentro del país para servir á su expansión. Como podrá suponerse, ese aumento significa que ha emigrado del país una suma de dinero equivalente, es preciso manifestar que el material ferroviario que las empresas adquieren en

Europa, no se paga con capital argentino, sino que por lo general es el resultado de acciones que se cubren con capital europeo y que concurren al desenvolvimiento progresivo del país.

Con referencia á las exportaciones, hay que tener en cuenta que en las cifras que se dan no está computado el valor de la esquila de lana vendida durante los meses de octubre á diciembre, y que suma, todos los años, entre 15,000,000 y 20,000,000 de pesos oro.

LA INMIGRACIÓN DE 1907.

El Director General de Inmigración de la República Argentina presentó á fines de enero de 1908 su informe estadístico de la inmigración correspondiente á 1907, del cual han sido tomados los datos que se publican á continuación.

El total de entradas, comprendiendo pasajeros é inmigrantes, de ultramar y Montevideo, alcanzó á 329,122 personas, que se clasifican en la siguiente forma:

	Entradas.	Salidas.
Pasajeros de ultramar	15,284	12,497
Pasajeros de Montevideo	55,914	55,172
Inmigrantes de ultramar	209,103	90,190
Inmigrantes de Montevideo	48,821	47,873
Total	329,122	205,732

La nacionalidad de los inmigrantes fué como sigue: Italianos, 90,282; españoles, 82,606; rusos, 9,530; turcos, 7,436; franceses, 4,125; austriacos, 3,439; alemanes, 2,322; ingleses, 1,659; húngaros, 1,220; portugueses, 1,118; argentinos, 1,016; griegos, 500; suizos, 486; brasileños, 482; búlgaros, 442; montenegrinos, 450; dinamarqueses, 378; norteamericanos, 393; rumanos, 223; belgas, 209; marroquíes, 180; holandeses, 178, y menor número de otras nacionalidades.

De los 209,103 inmigrantes de ultramar, 82,007 llegaron agrupados en 25,369 familias, y solo 109,106 hombres y 17,990 mujeres.

LA EDIFICACIÓN EN BUENOS AIRES.

Según estadísticas publicadas por los Srs. BRAVO, BARROS y COMPAÑÍA, de Buenos Aires, en su revista semanal "Las Ventas," el valor de lo edificado en Buenos Aires durante los siete años últimos fué como se detalla en el siguiente cuadro:

Año.	Valor en Moneda nacional.	Año.	Valor en Moneda nacional.
1901	$22,331,824	1905	38,812,825
1902	19,403,916	1906	56,114,120
1903	21,590,925	1907	79,033,833
1904	27,983,602		

La progresión comienza en 1904 con un 30 por ciento de aumento sobre 1903; en 1905 se observa un 40 por ciento más que en 1904; en 1906 un 48 por ciento más que en 1905, y en 1907 un 41 por ciento más que en 1906. De 1901 á 1907 el salto fué superior á un 250 por ciento.

POSTERGACIÓN DEL DEBATE DE LA VENTA DEL FERROCARRÍL ANDINO.

La comisión de obras públicas de la Cámara de Diputados del Congreso Argentino resolvió, á mediados del mes de enero de 1908, postergar para las próximas sesiones la discusión del proyecto de ley que autoriza la venta del Ferrocarril Andino en $27,828,000, las condiciones de la cual fueron expuestas en un contrato que sometió el Presidente de la República el 13 de diciembre de 1907 y que fué firmado ad referendum entre el Ministro de Obras Públicas y los representantes de los Ferrocarriles de Buenos Aires y Rosario y Central Argentino

TRANSPORTE DE LA COSECHA EN 1907.

En relación con las grandes cosechas de trigo, linaza y maíz que se hicieron en la República Argentina en el corriente año, dícese que los ferrocarriles han hecho preparativos adecuados para transportar estos productos con prontitud y economía.

Las siguientes tablas muestran la cantidad de trigo, linaza y maíz transportada por las principales líneas de ferrocarril argentinas en 1907, así como la proporción de dicho tráfico respecto de la carga transportada por las varias compañías ferroviarias:

Ferrocarriles.	Toneladas.	Trigo, Proporción de la carga total.	Linaza.	Trigo, Proporción de la carga total.	Maíz.	Trigo, Proporción de la carga total.
De Buenos Aires al Pacífico	640,000	32.5	79,000	4.0	199,000	10.1
De Buenos Aires y Rosario	1,070,000	14.5	308,000	4.2	1,778,000	24.1
Gran Ferrocarril del Sur de Buenos Aires	1,779,000	36.4	59,000	1.2	497,000	10.1
Ferrocarril del Oeste de Buenos Aires	926,000	39.2	.....	.....	579,000	24.5
Córdoba y Rosario	62,000	10.1	19,000	3.1	38,000	6.2
Central de Córdoba	22,000	4.1	1,000	.....	6,000	1.1
Central de Córdoba (sección del Norte)	.....	.....	.....	.....	17,000	2.5
Ferrocarril de Entre Ríos	121,000	26.7	76,000	16.3	8,000	1.8

EL CULTIVO DEL ALGODÓN Y LA FABRICACIÓN DE ARTÍCULOS DE ALGODÓN.

En un informe hecho por el Cónsul Francés en Buenos Aires y publicado en el "Moniteur Officiel du Commerce," correspondiente al 16 de enero de 1908, se dice que la mejor calidad de algodón que se produce en la República Argentina se cultiva en las provincias de La Rioja y Catamarca, en tanto que Córdoba, Tucumán y Corrientes, así como los territorios de Chaco y Misiones, consagran extensas áreas de

terreno á dicho cultivo. Los altos tipos de flete de ferrocarril han retardado el desarrollo de esta industria. En Tucumán y Córdoba dicho cultivo en la actualida d es bastante limitado, pero es susceptible de progreso, y en Corrientes dicha industria todavía está en su infancia, al paso que en Misiones la planta del algodón sufre á causa de los estragos que hacen las hormigas. El mayor desarrollo de este cultivo se advierte en la región de Chaco donde—á pesar de los estragos que hace una enfermedad que en el país se conoce por "rouja"—se cultiva una calidad superior de algodón de larga fibra que obtiene magníficos precios y es muy apreciado en los mercados del Havre y Liverpool. Se han hecho grandes esfuerzos, con éxito, encaminados á hacer desaparecer por completo dicha enfermedad.

En el distrito de Chaco hay uń gran número de desmotadoras que en 1907 beneficiaron como 800 toneladas métricas de algodón, la mitad de las cuales se usó en Buenos Aires y el resto se remitió al mercado de Liverpool. La semilla de algodón se le vende á la fábrica de Colonelli, que es la única que cuenta con la maquinaria que se requiere para la fabricación de aceite. Las tres pequeñas compañías de fabricación de algodón que se establecieron originalmente, se han fusionado bajo el nombre de "Sociedad de Hilanderías Argentinas de Algodón," con un capital como de $875,000. Esta compañía usa 400 toneladas del producto nativo, y no tiene que importar materia prima, y en los contratos que ha hecho para el corriente año, espera usar un aumento de materia prima respecto del año anterior. Dicha compañía tiene una fábrica muy importante en General Vedia, Distrio de Chaco; además, tiene una docena de molinos en Resistencia y una hilandería en Buenos Aires, con una capacidad para producir 2,000 kilogramos de hilaza diarios.

La cosecha de 1907 se calculó en 7,000 toneladas métricas, y hay 4,644 hectáreas cultivadas que se distribuyen de la manera siguiente:

Chaco, 3,280 hectareas; Formosa, 111 hectáreas; Misiones, 68; Corrientes, 495; Santa Fe, 275; Catamarca 22, y la Rioja, 215.

Las importaciones de algodón en el año de referencia se calculan, aproximadamente, en 52,682 kilogramos, ó sean 116,143 libras.

IMPUESTOS SOBRE LAS COMPAÑÍAS DE SEGUROS.

Los impuestos que se recaudaron en 1905 sobre las compañías de seguros ascendieron á 27,030.14 pesos en oro, y 350,792.06 pesos en papel moneda; en 1906 se recaudaron 26,302.87 pesos en oro, y 461,315.24 pesos en papel moneda, y en 1907 se recaudaron un total de 623,758.87 en papel moneda.

EDIFICIOS CONSTRUÍDOS EN BUENOS AIRES EN LOS SIETE ÚLTIMOS AÑOS.

Según la estadística publicada en el seminario intitulado "Las Ventas," el valor de los edificios que se construyeron en los siete últimos años fué como sigue:

Años.	Pesos en papel moneda.
1901	22,331,824
1902	19,403,916
1903	21,590,925
1904	27,983,602
1905	38,812,825
1906	56,114,120
1907	79,033,833

El adelanto comenzó en 1904, con un aumento de un 30 por ciento respecto de 1903; en 1905 hubo un aumento de más de 40 por ciento respecto de 1904; en 1906 hubo un aumento de un 48 por ciento respecto de 1905, y en 1907 hubo un aumento de un 41 por ciento respecto de 1906. Desde 1901 hasta 1907 el aumento ha excedido de 250 por ciento.

EL CULTIVO DEL ARROZ.

Al tener en cuenta la probabilidad del provechoso cultivo del arroz en la República desde el punto de vista comercial, el Departamento de Agricultura de la Argentina calcula que la producción de dicho cereal en 1907 ascendió á 13,000,000 de kilogramos, que se cogieron en un área total de 4,352 hectáreas.

El número de hectáreas que se cultivan de arroz en las diferentes provincias es como sigue: Tucumán, 2,900 hectáreas; Salta, 440 hectáreas; Jujuy, 357 hectáreas; San Juan, 275 hectáreas; Santiago del Estero, 10 hectáreas, y Misiones, 370 hectáreas. El término medio de producción es como 3,000 kilogramos por hectárea, que ocasionan un costo de $150 en moneda nacional por hectárea. Como quiera que el término medio del precio del arroz sin descascarar es de $9 á $10 por cada 100 kilogramos, resulta que el cultivador obtiene una buena ganancia. Dícese que en Salta y Jujuy se obtiene mayor rendimiento que en Tucumán, y que en Jujuy el costo de producción no excede de $135 por hectárea, puesto que los brazos son más baratos y el agua no cuesta nada. Sin embargo, debido al hecho de escogerse una semilla inferior, se cree que el arroz del país es inferior al importado.

Los datos estadísticos relativos á las importaciones de arroz muestran que en 1903 se importaron 1,681 toneladas sin descascarar, y 26,035 toneladas descascaradas; en 1904 se importaron 3,912 toneladas sin descascarar y 24,346 descascaradas; en 1905 se impor-

taron 2,159 toneladas sin descascarar y 21,698 descascaradas, al paso que en 1906 ambas clases de importaciones ascendieron, respectiva mente, á 10,791 y 23,518 toneladas.

Las cifras correspondiente á los nueve primeros meses de 1907 muestran que se importaron 12,716 toneladas de arroz sin descascarar, valuadas en $254,320, y 15,415 toneladas de arroz descascarada, valuadas en $1,233,145.

El arroz sin descascarar procede mayormente de las posesiones británicas, que en 1906 suministraron 10,197 toneladas, en tanto que el arroz descascarado procede principalmente de Italia, que en 1906 suministró 19,600 toneladas.

El precitado Departamento de Agricultura cree que el arroz podría cultivarse con provecho en la provincia de Córdoba, y que las islas que constituyen la delta del Paraná son especialmente propicias para dicho cultivo.

Que en la actualidad se cobra un derecho de importación de un 25 por ciento sobre un valor arancelario de $20 oro por tonelada por el arroz sin descascarar, y $80 oro por tonelada por el arroz descascarado.

PRODUCCIÓN DE AZÚCAR DE TUCUMÁN EN 1907.

Según los datos estadísticos publicados por la Sociedad Azucarera, en 1907 la caña que se molió en los 29 trapiches de la Provincia de Tucumán ascendió á 1,403,817 toneladas, que produjeron 91,150½ toneladas de azúcar. Las cifras correspondientes á 1905 meustran que se molieron 1,575,646 toneladas, que rindieron 113,745 toneladas de azúcar, ó sea un rendimiento de un 7.22 por ciento. En 1906 se molieron 1,671,338 toneladas de cañá, que rindieron 100,745 toneladas de azúcar, ó sea un 6 por ciento, en tanto que la proporción del rendimiento de la zafra de 1907 ascendió á un 6.55 por ciento.

ESTADÍSTICA DE RASTROS CORRESPONDIENTE Á 1907.

Los varios rastros y establecimientos de refrigeración de carne de la República Argentina anuncian que en 1907 se mataron 931,048 cabezas de ganado vacuno, 2,761,696 carneros, y 12,261 cerdos. Se importaron 2,900 toros, 3,950 ovejas, 785 caballos, y 111 asnos. Del ganado vacuno importado fué necesario matar un 9 por ciento, á causa de la tuberculosis, en tanto que de los 2,997,100 ovejas, que fueron inspeccionadas en Tablada, se encontró que había 45,554 que tenían garrapatas, y fueron rechazadas.

RENTA DE ADUANA RECAUDADA EN EL PUERTO DE BUENOS AIRES EN 1907.

La renta de aduana recaudada en Buenos Aires en 1907 ascendió á $114,968,855 en papel y $2,732,015 en oro, ó sea un aumento de $943,882 en comparación con 1906.

LA COMUNICACIÓN CON BOLIVIA.

La inauguración del ferrocarril que va de Jujuy á La Quiaca, estación terminal del Ferrocarril Central del Norte á la frontera boliviana, se ha efectuado en conformidad con el contrato que se celebró en 1903 entre el Gobierno Argentino y los Sres. Luis Stremiz y Cía.

La República Argentina, por virtud de un tratado con Bolivia, ha de construír por su cuenta una línea de empalme desde la frontera boliviana hasta una de las principales ciudades de Bolivia.

La longitud de la línea ferroviaria de Jujuy á La Quiaca es 284 kilómetros, ó sean más de 166 millas, y el costo de construcción asciende á $6,884,659. Partiendo de Jujuy, en un punto que está á 1,258 metros sobre el nivel del mar, el ferrocarril asciende por el valle atravesado por el Río Grande, el cual se cruza varias veces en los 34 primeros kilómetros. En la expresada distancia ha sido necesario construír 125 alcantarillas y puentes que varían desde 2 á 210 metros, al paso que en una extensión de 10 kilómetros, en la cual la pendiente representa un 60 por cada 1,000, el ferrocarril se ha construído con arreglo al sistema de vía de Abt. En esta sección de la vía se han de emplear poderosas locomotoras que se adhieren á los rieles y que, además de la máquina y ténder, pueden transportar un tren que pese 150 toneladas á una velocidad de 10 kilómetros por hora.

En la estación de Punamarca el ferrocarril está á una elevación de 2,208 metros sobre el nivel del mar, y en Negra Muerta, á la entrada del valle, la elevación llega á 3,343 metros. En Tres Cruces, que queda á una distancia de 184 kilómetros de Jujuy, se llega al máximo de elevación, que es 3,690 kilómetros. Desde allí la línea comienza á descender gradualmente hasta La Quiaca, donde la elevación asciende á 3,443 metros sobre el nivel del mar.

El "Standard" de Buenos Aires, al hacer comentarios acerca de dicho ferrocarril, pronostica un tráfico considerable de pasajeros por dicha línea á causa del bello paisaje de la región que recorre.

CONTRIBUCIÓN TERRITORIAL Y MATRÍCULAS.

En 1907 la contribución territorial recaudada en la capital ascendió á 10,334,746.98 pesos, ó sea un aumento de 3,774,322.84 pesos, respecto de lo recaudado en 1906. La recaudación de contribuciones en los territorios nacionales ascendió á 1,121,816.94 pesos, contra 472,723.75 pesos que se recaudaron en 1906.

La recaudación por concepto de matrículas industriales en 1906 ascendió á 3,593,114.83 pesos, en tanto que en 1907 ascendió á 3,936,496.67 pesos, mostrándose así un notable aumento.

En 1907 el impuesto sobre matrículas en el interior de la República produjo 342,465.92 pesos, ó sea un aumento de 16,071.96 pesos respecto de 1906.

En la recaudación del impuesto sobre matrículas marítimas se advierte una pequeña disminución, pues en 1906 ascendió á 446,170 pesos, en tanto que en 1907 sólo ascendió á 440,501 pesos.

Los recargos que se impusieron en 1906 produjeron 254,735.55 pesos, y en 1907 produjeron 162,416.29 pesos.

La recaudación total en 1906 ascendió á 11,653,558.29 pesos, en tanto que en 1907 ascendió á 16,338,448.80 pesos, mostrándose así un aumento de 4,684,885.51 pesos á favor de 1907.

La venta de papel sellado en 1907 produjo 9,876,803.40 pesos, y en 1906 produjo 9,550,581.60 pesos.

BOLIVIA.

COMERCIO CON LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS EN 1907.

El Sr. Don Ignacio Calderón, Ministro de Bolivia en Wáshington, le anuncia á la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas que, según los informes consulares correspondientes al año de 1907, el valor de las exportaciones á Bolivia procedentes de Nueva York y San Francisco, ascendió á $2,852,460.30. En 1906 el valor de los embarques semejantes que se hicieron ascendió á $1,136,603.91, ó sea un aumento de $1,715,856.39.

En 1905 el valor de las mercancías exportadas de los precitados puertos con destino á Bolivia ascendió á $1,720,000, de manera que resulta un aumento de cerca de un 100 por ciento en los dos años.

En 1907 el valor de las mercancías americanas exportadas á Bolivia sólo ascendió á $1,502,622, puesto que una gran cantidad de mercancías que se destinaron últimamente á Bolivia entró por puertos chilenos. No se han anotado las importaciones.

COMERCIO EXTRANJERO.

Los principales puertos de la República son Villa Bella, Puerto Suárez y Huaqui. Entre los de menos importancia se encuentran Puerto Sucre, Villa Rica, Puerto Pérez y Sotalaya, Bahía ó Cobija, Madre de Dios, Puerto Ballivián y Rurrenabaque.

En la actualidad las aduanas principales de la República son Huaqui, Oruro, Uyuni, Tupiza, Tarija, Puerto Suárez, Villa Bella, Abuná, Madre de Dios y Bahía. Entre las aduanas de segunda y tercera clase se encuentran las siguientes: Corocoro, Sotalaya, Pelechuco, Itenes, San Matías, Yacuiba, Salitre, Río Grande, Salinas de Garcilindoza, Huaycho, San Ignacio y la Gaiba.

Toda mercancía, sea cual fuere su clase, deberá pasar per una de las aduanas establecidas para que pueda considerarse legalmente introducida en la República. Todas las mercancías conocidas en el comercio son admitidas en la República, excepción hecha de los

artículos cuya circulación está prohibida por las leyes penales y las de seguridad y moral públicas, así como los que se expresan en el reglamento de aduanas y los efectos estancados. Las armas blancas y de fuego, así como la pólvora, con excepción de la que se importa para usarla en las minas, las municiones, y en general toda clase de elementos de guerra, sólo pueden introducirse con permiso expreso del Gobierno.

Las mercancías extranjeras que se importan para el consumo de la República, pagan en la aduana respectiva los derechos fijados por el arancel, siendo libres las que se detallan en el mismo arancel y las que el poder legislativo declara exentas de derechos.

Un 50 por ciento de los derechos de aduana se paga en oro, al tipo de 12.5 bolivianos por libra esterlina. En caso de pagarse en plata, el total ó una parte de dicho 50 por ciento, se impondrá un recargo de un 5 por ciento. Las cantidades menores de 12.5 bolivianos pueden abonarse en plata, sin recargo alguno.

En los almacenes de depósito se cobran 0.30 de un boliviano por cada 100 kilogramos ó fracción de ellos.

Una vez que las mercancías se introducen en las aduanas de la República, quedarán exentas de todo otro impuesto, á menos que las leyes especiales y ordenanzas municipales dispongan lo contrario.

Pueden exportarse todos los productos del país, ya sean en su estado natural ó manufacturados, con excepción de las vicuñas, alpacas y chinchillas vivas, y las antigüedades bolivianas.

En general están exentos de derechos todos los productos naturales y manufacturados de Bolivia, con excepción de los siguientes:

	Bolivianos.
Bismuto en barra, los 46 kilogramos	10.0
Bismuto en barrilla, los 46 kilogramos	8.0
Cobre en barrilla, los 46 kilogramos	1.0
Oro en barra ó en polvo, la onza	.2
Plata (minerales) el marco fino	.08
Moneda, sellada de oro	por ciento.. 3
Goma elástica	id..... 8 y 15

El estaño está sujeto á una escala gradual que depende de su cotización en los mercados de Europa. Por ejemplo, si la tonelada *straight* de barrilla se cotiza á menos de £100 el quintal, paga 0.90 de boliviano; si se cotiza á más de £200 el quintal, paga 3.30 centésimos.

En 1905 y 1906, el valor de las exportaciones é importaciones fué respectivamente como sigue:

	Exportaciones.	Importaciones.
	Bolivianos.	*Bolivianos.*
1905	29,533,046	20,298,771
1906	56,654,515	34,232,578

VÍAS DE COMUNICACIÓN.

En agosto de 1907 la extensión de los ferrocarriles bolivianos en explotación ascendió á 674 kilómetros, distribuídos como sigue:

	Kilómetros.
Ollagüe á Oruro	484
Uyuni á Huanchaca	25
Huaqui á La Paz	96
Viacha á Ayoayo	59
Ramales de estas vías	10
Total	674

Los caminos carreteros de la República tienen una extensión de 3,716 kilómetros.

La longitud de los ríos navegables dentro del territorio boliviano asciende á 18,820 kilómetros, ó sean 10,156 millas marítimas.

OPERACIONES DE LA CASA NACIONAL DE MONEDA DURANTE EL PRIMER SEMESTRE DE 1907.

Las operaciones de la Casa Nacional de Moneda de la República de Bolivia durante el primer semestre de 1907, fueron como se especifica á continuación: Rescates, 341 kilogramos y 500 gramos, valorados en 15,657.53 bolivianos; gastos de material, 2,043.14 bolivianos; amonedación, 1,124 kilogramos y 125 gramos, ó sean 48,943.05 bolivianos. Estas cifras han sido tomadas de una nota publicada en la "Revista de Colonización y Agricultura" del mes de septiembre de 1907.

REDUCCIÓN DEL INTERÉS SOBRE LAS MATRÍCULAS MINERAS.

El día 16 de diciembre de 1907, el Presidente Ismael Montes promulgó el siguiente decreto:

"Artículo único. Se reduce el interés de las matrículas mineras devengadas, al 9 por ciento anual, quedando así modificada la ley de 26 de octubre de 1890, y el artículo 69 del Reglamento de Minería de 28 de octubre de 1882."

PRODUCCIÓN É INDUSTRIA.

La superficie territorial de Bolivia se calcula en 156,824,111 hectáreas, y descontando el 30 por ciento que se supone ocupada por bosques, ríos, lagos, ciudades, poblaciones, cordilleras, etc., resultan más de 90,000,000 de hectáreas que pueden dedicarse á la agricultura y la ganadería, industrias que podrían dar ocupación á 25,000,000 ó 30,000,000 de habitantes.

Como no existen datos estadísticos exactos, resulta difícil calcular la producción agrícola de la República. Todo lo que en este sentido se produce, se consagra al consumo doméstico, excepción hecha de la goma elástica que se exporta á Europa, y pequeñas cantidades de coca, café, quina, etc., que se consumen en Chile y la República Argentina.

Las regiones que más goma elástica producen se hallan en el Territorio Nacional de Colonias, los Departamentos del Beni y Santa Cruz, y una parte de los de La Paz y Cochabamba. Tanto la coca como el café se producen en los Yungas de la Paz y Cochabamba. El Beni y Santa Cruz también producen café y otros productos vegetales valiosos.

La goma elástica, cuya explotación constituye en la actualidad una de las fuentes más importantes y seguras de riqueza de la industria nacional, está considerada como el producto vegetal más valioso, así en la República como en el extranjero.

En todo el territorio de la República se calcula que los terrenos baldíos ascienden á 635,000 kilómetros cuadrados.

La propiedad de los terrenos baldios del Estado se adquiere por medio de compra, salvo en los casos de adquisiciones con arreglo á leyes especiales, y la unidad de medida para toda adquisición es 10,000 metros, cuadrados, equivalentes á 2.471 acres.

En cada capital de Departamento y de Provincia existe una junta de fomento agrícola y ganadero, que tiene por objeto estimular las industrias agrícola y pecuaria del país, y cuyas atribuciones están sujetas á un reglamento especial.

En Bolivia abundan mucho las minas ricas, y éstas comprenden casi todos los minerales conocidos en el mundo.

En las montañas de Bolivia se encuentran grandes vetas de preciosos metales, que constituyen variadísimas combinaciones, y la explotación se verifica en gran escala. Sin embargo, debido á la gran escasez de brazos, capitales, y vías ferreas, no puede hacerse una explotación completa y en debida forma. Á pesar de estos inconvenientes, puede decirse que la industria minera en Bolivia está á la altura de los adelantos más modernos, y que cuenta con el mejor peón de minas de la América del Sur.

Ha dicho un autor que desde el punto de vista minero, Bolivia nada tiene que envidiar á las otras naciones. Los yacimientos de cobre de Corocoro, y las minas de estaño y de bismuto, se consideran entre los más ricos del mundo.

Á continuación se mencionan los minerales que en la actualidad se explotan en mayor escala.

En Bolivia hay tres regiones auríferas que contienen oro en abundancia. La primera región se extiende desde los confines occidentales de la República en la cuenca del Inambary, hasta la frontera oriental en el Alto Paraguay. Comprende esta región toda la zona montañosa de las Provincias de Caupolicán, Muñecas, Larecaja, el Cercodo, Yúngas, Inquisivi y Loayza del Departmento de La Paz, continuando por el Departamento de Cochabamba y se prolonga por Santa Cruz. También los afamados lavaderos del Río San Juan del Oro, Suches, Tipuani, Los Cajones y Chuquiaguillo; las minas de

Araca, Yani, Cavari, Ayopaya, Arque, San Simón, San Javier, Sorotoco de Chiquitos, y otras que pertenecen á esta distribución.

La segunda región comienza en Lípez, continúa por la parte sur de las Provincias de Chayauta, Surchichas, Departamento de Pososí, Méndez en Tarija, Cinti y Acero en Chuquisacal hasta Santa Cruz. En esta región están los yacimientos y placeres de Amayapampa. Suipacha, Esmoraca, Chuquichuqui, Río San Juan y afluentes del Guapay.

La tercera región, acaso la más rica de todas, no se está explotando, pero se extiende hacia el noroeste de la República hasta Corabaya, en el Perú, con las nacientes del Madre de Dios y el Acre y Purús.

Desde 1540 hasta 1759, es decir, en doscientos veinte años, las minas de oro de Bolivia han producido £420,000,000. De entonces hasta principios del siglo décimonono las minas y lavaderos de las provincias de Larecaja y Caupolicán han producido $14,000,000 oro, y desde 1818 hasta 1878 produjeron 150,776 onzas. Se calcula que el producto de las otras minas y lavaderos de la nación desde mediados del siglo décimoctavo hasta fines del décimonono ascendió á £25,000,000. En vista de los datos que se han obtenido sobre la materia, la producción de oro en Bolivia en un año puede calcularse aproximadamente en 550 kilogramos, cuyo valor oficial asciende á 275,000 bolivianos. La plata es un metal que abunda en casi todo el territorio de la República, y ha hecho célebre el Cerro de Potosí en el cual, de 1556 hasta 1651, le produjo 3,240,000 de pesos á la Corona Española, únicamente de derechos de quinto. Sabido es que Bolivia ha ocupado durante mucho tiempo el tercer lugar entre los países productores de plata.

La región occidental es la más favorecida, y sobre las zonas auríferas de la Alta Planicie, que constituye la base del inmenso plano hacia el norte, el sur y el este, los minerales de plata ocupan la parte superior y coronan las cumbres de las serranías andinas de occidente á oriente.

En toda la República hay más de 10,000 minas de plata abandonadas, sin contar muchísimas que se están explotando. Las primeras se han dejado de explotar, no por agotamiento, ni deficiencia del metal, sino por falta de capital ó de medios adecuados para efectuar la extracción del agua y por otros inconvenientes.

El Departamento de Potosí es el más rico y abundante en minas de plata, y en él se encuentran los famosos asientos de Huanchaca, Aullagas, Colquechaca, Ocurí, Porco, Guadalupe, Portugalete, Carguaicollo, Chorolque, Tomave y Lípez, sin contar otras empresas de importancia que hacen la explotación en el Cerro de Potosí, Andacaba, Chachacomani, Turqui, Uncia y otros lugares.

En el Departamento de Oruro son dignas de mención las minas de Oruro, San José, Antequera y Otras; en el de Chuquisaca, las de San

Lucas, Huata y Pojo; en el de Cochabamba, las de Arque y Choquecamata, y en el Departamento de La Paz, las de Colquiri. Los minerales más ricos rinden á razón de 8,000 marcos por cajón, ó sean 50 quintales españoles.

La riqueza estañífera de Bolivia es asombrosa, y lo que retarda su desarrollo es la falta de capital, de caminos de hierro y carreteros que den fácil salida hacia los mares á los productos beneficiados.

Este mineral se encuentra con mucha frecuencia en la faja oriental de la Alta Planicie, desde las cercanías del Lago Titicaca hasta cerca de la frontera meridional de la República. El lugar más conocido hacia el norte es Moho, en la provincia peruana de Huancané, en el límite noroeste del Titicaca; Milluni, en el Huayna Potosí, Quime, Colquiri y toda la Provincia de Inquisivi, Oruro y alrededores, Cerro del León, y Avicaya, Provincia de Poopó, Chayanta, Potosí, Porco Tazna, Chorolque, Chocaya y Catagaita.

Los distritos productores de estaño se dividen en cuatro, á saber: La Paz, al norte; Oruro, en el centro; Chorolque, en el sur, y Potosí, en el este.

Bolivia ocupa el primer puesto entre los países productores de bismuto. Como el bismuto y el estaño tienen estrechas afinidades de yacimiento y con frecuencia se encuentran mezclados, se encuentran en los mismos lugares en la parte oriental de los Andes hasta el nudo de Apolobamba, y en Palca, Chacaltaya, Huayna Potosí, Sorata, etc. También se encuentra en las cordilleras del Chorolque y Tazna.

No es exagerado decir que de las riquezas mineralógicas de Bolivia el cobre representa una de las más importantes, así por su abundancia como por su ley. Las formaciones cupríferas se encuentran principalmente en la cadena oriental de los Andes desde Lípez, donde se encuentra el cobre blanco, Porco, Chayanta en el Departamento de Potosí en Arqui, y Colcha en el de Cochabamba, extendiéndose por Turco, Poopó y Oruro, y entonces se dirige al noroeste hacia Corocoro y pasa por la Chacarilla. Desde Corocoro se extiende por la provincia de Omasuyos, Muñecas y Caupolicán, hasta los linderos del Perú por el nudo de Apolobamba. El asiento minero de Corocoro es, sin duda, el más rico de todos y donde se hace una explotación más activa.

Estos cinco minerales, á saber, el oro, plata, estaño, bismuto y cobre, constituyen principalmente la riqueza minera de Bolivia, por más que se producen otras substancias como el wolfram, antimonio, plomo, borato de cal, etc.

Las leyes de minas de Bolivia favorecen mucho al capitalista extranjero, pues éste goza de toda clase de facilidades para llevar á cabo la explotación de minas. Los extranjeros, sea cual fuere su nacionalidad, pueden adquirir pertenencias mineras en condiciones iguales á las de los hijos del país. Toda maquinaria que se destine á la industria minera, así como á la agrícola, se introduce libre de

derechos, siendo también libre la exportación de minerales, con excepción del cobre, estaño, plata, oro y bismuto, que están sujetos á pequeños impuestos.

Todo individuo, nacional ó extranjero, que disfrute de los derechos civiles, puede obtener una ó más pertenencias, por una sola concesión, en minerales conocidos, y 30 pertenencias en minerales recién descubiertas. Una pertenencia comprende 100 metros cuadrados.

Para obtener la concesión de una ó más pertenencias, es necesario presentar una solicitud ante el prefecto ó delegado, en papel sellado de 20 bolivianos, y por cada pertenencia se pagará á razón de 2 bolivianos semestralmente si la mina es de veta, y 1 boliviano si es lavadero ó venero.

En dicha solicitud se expresará lo siguiente: 1°, nombre, domicilio y profesión del solicitante; 2°, nombre que se dará á la concesión; 3°, lugar de la pertenencia, determinándose la dirección y distancia en que se halla de otro punto fijo; 4°, número de pertenencias; 5°, ubicación minera de las pertenencias, expresándose si se conoce como tal, ó si es una comarca recién descubierta; 6°, los nombres de los mineros colindantes, si los hubiere, y 7°, el nombre del propietario del terreno si éste fuere del dominio particular.

Las minas pueden explotarse libremente con tal que los empresarios cumplan la ley de policía minera, cuidando sobre todo de que tanto la vida como la salud de los trabajadores no se pongan en peligro, ni se perturbe el orden público.

Los jornales que se pagan son más ó menos como sigue: Á los barreteros, de 3 á 4 bolivianos diarios; torneros, 2 á 3 bolivianos diarios; cargadores, changadores, etc., de 1 á 2 bolivianos según pericia.

DATOS ESTADÍSTICOS.

El 1° de septiembre de 1906, la República tenía 1,953,916 habitantes, tomando por base el censo de 1900.

Las rentas de la República se dividen en nacionales, departamentales y municipales. Las primeras consisten en el producto de las aduanas, derechos de exportación, impuestos sobre sociedades anónimas y empresas mineras, facturas consulares, hipotecas, marcas de fábrica, patentes mineras, papel sellado y timbres, acuñación de monedas, telégrafos del Estado, venta de terrenos baldíos, casillas y sellos de correos, grados universitarios, etc.

Se calcula que las segundas en el corriente año de 1907 ascenderán á 13,583,333 bolivianos (£1,806,667), y los gastos se calculan en 14,614,288 bolivianos (£1,169,143).

En estos últimos años la renta nacional ha obtenido un aumento, con motivo de las indemnizaciones brasileña y chilena que ascienden próximamente á £2,300,000 ó 28,700,000 bolivianos, suma que se destinará exclusivamente á la construcción de ferrocarriles.

Bolivia no pertenece todavía á la Unión Telegráfica Universal, y sus relaciones con los demás países las rige y determina únicamente el interés recíproco. Sin embargo ha celebrado convenios y tratados con varias naciones de América y con compañías particulares para facilitar y garantizar este servicio.

BRASIL.

APROBACIÓN DE LA CONVENCIÓN SANITARIA.

Por un decreto de 9 de enero de 1908, el Congreso Brasileño aprobó la resolución que fué firmada en la Tercera Conferencia Panamericana, adhiriéndose á la Convención Sanitaria Internacional de Wáshington.

COMERCIO EXTRANJERO EN ONCE MESES DE 1907.

En los once meses transcurridos de enero á noviembre del año común de 1907, el valor total de las importaciones que hizo el Brasil ascendió á $183,000,000, en comparación con $146,000,000 en 1906.

El valor de las exportaciones en los dos períodos comparados fué $252,000,000 y $238,000,000, respectivamente.

El café y la goma en la lista de exportaciones representan un valor de más de $192,000,000, es decir, $131,000,000 y $61,000,000 respectivamente.

EXPORTACIONES DE CAFÉ DE 1900 Á 1907.

La siguiente tabla muestra las exportaciones de café brasileño durante el período transcurrido de 1900 á 1907:

Años.	Sacos.
1900	5,849,114
1901	9,613,080
1902	8,714,182
1903	7,994,395
1904	6,571,509
1905	7,453,752
1906	10,166,257
1907	11,470,116

ESTADÍSTICA DE DEFUNCIONES EN RÍO DE JANEIRO.

Según las cifras proporcionadas por la Junta de Sanidad de Río de Janeiro, en 1907 hubo una notable disminución en la mortalidad de dicha ciudad, á pesar de haber habido un aumento considerable en su población. La mortalidad de 1906 y 1907 fué 13,960 y 12,106, respectivamente.

EL CÁÑAMO BRASILEÑO.

El Instituto Agronómico del Estado de San Pablo llama la atención hacia una nueva fibra que se extrae de una planta denominada *hebisco*, que ha cultivado el Dr. Victorio A. de Perini en la Estación

Rodeio, y que, según dicho instituto, crece espontáneamente en los Estados del Norte bañados por el Río San Francisco, donde dicha planta se conoce por Papaoula do San Francisco y Papaoula de Río Abaixo. El director del Instituto Agronómico de Campinas ha hecho un informe que contiene los siguientes datos:

El Doctor PERINI envió al precitado instituto para su debido análisis una muestra de fibra que pesaba como 20 gramos, y la estopa correspondiente que pesaba 4.5 gramos. Dice el Doctor que la muestra de referencia es de una calidad regular, pero debe hacerse constar que el procedimiento que él adoptó no dió fibras mucho más fuertes que las que se obtuvieron en el instituto en los experimentos que se hicieron encaminados á extraer la fibra en agua estancada y agua corriente.

El Gobierno ha hecho una concesión á una compañía particular para la explotación de dicha planta, y el presidente del Estado de Río de Janeiro ha concedido una subvención anual de 30 contos de reis, durante cuatro años, para una fábrica de tejidos de dicho lino, papel y cuerdas, que se establecerá en el Estado de Río de Janeiro.

LAS OBRAS DEL PUERTO EN PERNAMBUCO.

El Ministerio de Industria, Ferrocarriles y Obras Públicas del Brasil ha publicado un llamamiento para obtener propuestas para la construcción de las obras de puerto en Recife, Estado de Pernambuco, en conformidad con un plan que fué aprobado por el decreto de 4 de noviembre de 1907. Las propuestas para dichas obras se recibirán hasta el medio día del 26 de marzo de 1908.

Las descripciones detalladas y el pliego de condiciones comprenden la construcción de un malecón que tenga 1,147 metros de longitud y una profundidad de 9 metros bajo el nivel del agua, en marea baja; un dique que tenga 798 metros de longitud; muelles para atracar, cargar y descargar buques, levantar y nivelar una antigua pared que fué construída en los arrécifes; dragar en general la bahía hasta una profundidad de 9 metros más abajo de la marea baja en la entrada del puerto, y de 8 metros hacia el sur de los muelles; rellenar el espacio que hay entre los nuevos muelles y la ribera actual, extraer las rocas que obstruyen la entrada en la bahía; construir siete almacenes de depósito y una línea de ferrocarril que tenga 1 metro de entrevía en los muelles; líneas para grúas eléctricas y el empedrado y desagüe de las calles.

El precio estipulado para la construcción de dichas obras no ha de exceder de 49,411:671, ó sea $16,305,850, y se conceden seis años para terminarlas, incluso un año, á contar de la fecha del contrato, para la instalación de la maquinaria que se requiera para comenzar los trabajos propiamente dichos.

SEÑOR GRAL. ALFREDO VÁSQUEZ COBO, EX-MINISTRO DE RELACIONES EXTERIORES DE COLOMBIA, OFICIAL DE LA LEGIÓN DE HONOR.

General Alfredo Vásquez Cobo, ex-Minister of Foreign Relations of Colombia, officer of the Legion of Honor.

La "Revista Brasileña" correspondiente al 14 de enero de 1908, publica el texto íntegro de las descripciones detalladas, los planos y pliego de condiciones.

EL COMERCIO DE SANTOS EN 1907.

El valor de las exportaciones que se hicieron por el puerto de Santos en 1907, ascendió á $107,000,000, y el de las importaciones que se hicieron por el mismo puerto ascendió á $42,000,000, en comparación con $101,000,000, valor de las exportaciones y $32,000,000, valor de las importaciones el año anterior.

Los principales artículos de importación fueron efectos de hierro y acero, substancias alimenticias y tejidos, en tanto que la mayor parte de las exportaciones consistió de café, representando el afrecho, los cueros y la goma nada más que una pequeña proporción del valor total de las exportaciones.

RENTA DE ADUANA EN PARÁ EN 1907.

El Vista de aduana de Pará anuncia que en 1907 la renta de aduana de dicho puerto brasileño, ascendió á 9,373:600$794 oro y 22,575:310$099 en papel moneda.

COLOMBIA.

NUEVO GABINETE.

El 10 de marzo de 1908 fué nombrado el siguiente Gabinete: Ministro de Gobernación, Señor Don Francisco José Urrutia; Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores, Señor Don Marcelino Vargas; Ministro de Hacienda y Tesoro, Señor Don Ricardo Restrepo; Ministro de la Guerra, General Victor Calderón; Ministro de Instrucción Pública, Señor Don Emiliano Isaza, y Ministro de Obras Públicas, Señor Don José María Ruiz.

COMERCIO DE CARTAGENA EN 1907.

Los datos que el Sr. I. A. Manning, Cónsul de los Estados Unidos, le ha proporcionado á la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas, muestran un aumento en los embarques de los principales productos de exportación de Colombia hechos por el puerto de Cartagena en el año de 1907, en comparación con los que se hicieron en 1906.

En los embarques de café hubo un aumento de 3,988,647 kilogramos; en los de tabaco hubo un aumento de 2,267,151 kilogramos;

en los de marfil vegetal hubo un aumento de 1,968,816 kilogramos, y en los de goma hubo un aumento de 20,052 kilogramos.

[Expresado en kilogramos.]

	Estados Unidos.		Reino Unido.		Alemania.		Francia.		Otros países.	
	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.
Café	4,432,603	7,404,329	783,511	1,346,662	740,711	1,119,299	31,344	68,472	9,695	47,749
Tabaco	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,713,660	3,980,811	.....	.....	.....	.....
Marfil vegetal	7,528	440,772	.....	53,031	1,862,574	3,422,964	591,438	505,589	.....	.....
Goma	86,399	86,569	72,787	77,360	40,751	36,352	33,943	43,750	.....	9,901

Las importaciones hechas por Cartagena en los años que terminaron el 30 de junio de 1906 y de 1907, muestran el siguiente valor de los artículos procedentes de los Estados Unidos y de otros países, considerados en conjunto.

[Expresado en kilogramos.]

	Estados Unidos.		De todos los países.	
	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.
Maquinaria, excepto máquinas de coser	195,518	238,334	283,158	407,805
Libros impresos	5,338	1,598	12,371	14,917
Artículos en lata	61,411	20,354	125,075	75,465
Cemento	22,859	109,455	682,820	1,133,596
Drogas y medicinas	956,019	121,980	1,239,225	443,554
Harina de trigo	1,875,526	572,160	1,944,326	573,979
Máquinas de coser	22,706	80,879	25,609	87,082
Petroleo	1,241,811	923,889	1,248,615	928,225
Substancias alimenticias preparadas	.....	32,595	.....	93,095
Arroz	794,779	133,884	3,993,309	2,407,904
Sebo	80,100	82,985	81,371	101,960
Manteca	491,946	22,211	491,058	.....
Alambre de cerca	622,966	608,781	641,017	692,908

PAGO DE SUBVENCIONES Á LAS COMPAÑÍAS DE VAPORES DEL RÍO MAGDALENA.

En su sesión del 5 de diciembre de 1907, el Consejo de Ministros de la República de Colombia acordó que se dicte un decreto destinando la suma de $120,000 anuales para atender con ella al pago de las subvenciones que se asignan á las compañías de vapores del Río Magdalena que establezcan sus tarifas de exportación de acuerdo con el Gobierno.

PRIMAS DE EXPORTACIÓN.

En la misma sesión se acordó también que se destine la suma de $30,000 anuales para cubrir el valor de las primas que se concedan á productores que exporten sus artículos por las aduanas de Tumaco, Buenaventura y Cúcuta. Estas primas se amortizarán totalmente cada año por remates con la mencionada suma.

CANJE DE LAS RATIFICACIONES DEL TRATADO DE AMISTAD, COMERCIO Y NAVEGACIÓN CON EL ECUADOR.

El "Boletín del Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores" de Colombia, publica en su número de enero de 1908, el texto del Tratado de Amistad, Comercio y Navegación entre dicha República y la del Ecuador,

suscrito el 10 de agosto de 1905, y cuyo canje de ratificaciones fué efectuado en la ciudad de Quito el 24 de octubre de 1907. La importancia de este tratado es notoria, tratándose de dos Repúblicas que viven en comunicación tan estrecha. La colonia colombiana en el Ecuador excede de 40,000 colombianos y eran frecuentes los casos difíciles de resolver que se presentaban en la esfera del Derecho Internacional privado. Este convenio, uno de los más completos que se han celebrado en el continente americano, contiene disposiciones de grande importancia. Por el artículo 1 se conviene que habrá paz y perpetua amistad entre las dos Repúblicas. En el artículo 2 se estipula la extradición de criminales. Las dos Repúblicas se comprometen en el artículo 3, á no apelar al recurso de las armas, caso de interrumpirse las relaciones de amistad entre ellas, hasta no haberse agotado todos los medios amistosos para ajustar las diferencias que se suscitaren y hasta que se niegue expresamente la debida satisfacción después de que una potencia amiga y neutral designada como árbitro haya decidido sobre la justicia de la demanda. El artículo 4 dispone que habrá recíproca libertad de comercio y navegación entre los dos países.

En virtud del artículo 5 los buques colombianos que arriben á los puertos del Ecuador y, recíprocamente, los buques ecuatorianos que arriben á los puertos de Colombia, serán considerados como buques nacionales para el cobro de los derechos de puerto. En los artículos 6 y 8 al 11, se establecen mutuas franquicias aduaneras para los efectos y mercaderías que se importen ó exporten en buques de los países contratantes, y para los productos naturales y manufacturados de ambas Repúblicas. Por el artículo 7 se tendrán como buques nacionales de una ú otra parte, todos los que estén provistos de patente expedida conforme á las leyes del país. Según el artículo 12, las importaciones de naciones extranjeras pagarán los derechos correspondientes conforme á la tarifa general. El artículo 13 dispone que cuando algún buque de guerra ó mercante de una de las partes contratantes naufrague, encalle ó sufra alguna avería, ó tenga que hacer reparaciones, etc., se le dará la ayuda y protección que se daría á los buques de la nación en que se encuentre. En el artículo 14 se estipula que los ciudadanos de una de las dos Repúblicas transeúntes ó residentes en el territorio de la otra no podrán ser embargados ni detenidos con sus embarcaciones, tripulaciones, etc., para expediciones militares, usos públicos ó particulares sin conceder á los interesados la justa y suficiente indemnización. Por los términos del artículo 15, los ciudadanos de una República tendrán facultad para adquirir en la otra propiedades inmuebles y para administrarlas por sí ó por medio de agente; para ejercer cualquier industria, agrícola, mercantil ó fabril, ó profesión literaria

ó científica, y para comparecer ante las autoridades ó tribunales en los asuntos que les conciernan ó representen; el mismo artículo les declara libres del servicio militar y del pago de empréstitos forzosos y otras contribuciones personales extraordinarias. En la eventualidad de un rompimiento entre las dos Repúblicas, se estipula en el artículo 16 que los ciudadanos de la una residentes ó transeúntes en el territorio de la otra, no serán obligados á salir del país, sino por las mismas causas y los mismos trámites legales por que lo serían los ciudadanos de la República en que residen ó transitan, y se conviene, además, que en el mismo caso de hostilidades, éstas no se harán sino por los jefes y oficiales debidamente autorizados y por las tropas que estuvieren á sus órdenes; que no se incendiarán ni se entregarán al saqueo las poblaciones, ni se atentará á la vida de los rendidos ni de los ciudadanos pacíficos, y que no se interrumpirán las relaciones mercantiles entre ambas Repúblicas.

Con el fin de evitar los embarazos que pudiera ocasionar á su comercio el estado de guerra en que se encontrase alguna de ellas con otras naciones, se conviene en el artículo 17 que las Altas Partes Contratantes reconocen y admiten el principio de que el pabellón cubre las propiedades y personas, con excepción de los militares pertenecientes á la nación enemiga. En el artículo 18 se estipula que si alguna de las partes contratantes estuviere en guerra con una tercera potencia, y la otra permaneciere neutral, las propiedades de ésta y de sus ciudadanos que se encontraren á bordo de buques enemigos quedarán sujetos á confiscación. De acuerdo con el artículo 19, ninguna de las dos Repúblicas podrá franquear auxilios de ninguna clase á los enemigos de la otra, ni permitirá que en su territorio se hagan reclutamientos de tropas ó se armen ó tripulen buques de guerra ó corsarios. Para cabal inteligencia de los artículos 16 y 17, se especifican en el artículo 20 los objetos que deben reputarse como de contrabando de guerra. En el artículo 21 las partes contratantes se comprometen á conservar en vigor las leyes sobre la abolición del tráfico de esclavos y á dictar cuantas medidas sean necesarias para impedir dicho tráfico. En virtud del artículo 22, cada una de las partes contratantes podrá establecer cónsules y vicecónsules en los puertos y plazas mercantiles del territorio de la otra, los cuales gozarán en el país de su residencia los mismos privilegios concedidos ó que se concedan á los de la nación más favorecida. En el artículo 23 convienen las dos Repúblicas que si una de ellas concede á alguna otra nación cualquier privilegio en lo relativo á comercio ó navegación, el mismo privilegio se hará extensivo á la otra. Con el fin de mantener firmes y duraderas sus relaciones amistosas, las partes contratantes convienen en el artículo 24 en que si alguno de los ciudadanos de cualquiera de ellas infringiere alguna de las estipulaciones del tratado, el infractor será personalmente responsable, sin

que por ello se interrumpa la buena armonía entre los dos pueblos. Conviénese asimismo, en el artículo 25, que en el caso de que alguno de los dos Gobiernos infringiera cualquiera de los artículos de este tratado, los demás artículos que abracen objetos distintos se considerarán siempre válidos y subsistentes. En el artículo 26 se estipula que mientras se arregle por convención especial la demarcación de límites territoriales entre las dos Repúblicas, se reconocen los mismos que conforme á la ley colombiana de 25 de junio de 1824 separaban los antiguos Departamentos del Cauca y del Ecuador; en este mismo artículo se comprometen ambas Repúblicas á prestarse cooperación mutua para conservar la integridad del territorio de la antigua República de Colombia que pertenece á cada una de ellas. Por el artículo 27 la duración de este tratado, por el cual se derogan los celebrados en Pasto el 8 de diciembre de 1832, será de seis años, contados desde el día del canje de las ratificaciones, en todos los artículos relativos á comercio y navegación, y perpetua en el 1, el 2 y el 16 que arreglan las relaciones políticas entre las dos Repúblicas El artículo 28 y último prescribe la manera de efectuarse las ratificaciones y el canje de éstas.

PAGO DE SUBVENCIONES, GASTOS, ETC., Á EMPRESAS PERROVIARIAS DURANTE 1908.

Según un informe publicado en el "Diario Oficial" de la República de Colombia del 24 de diciembre de 1907, las partidas que pagará el Gobierno durante el año de 1908 por subvenciones, garantía de intereses y otros gastos, á compañías de ferrocarriles en explotación ó en construcción, son las siguientes:

	Oro.
Para pagar al Ferrocarril de Girardot la garantía de intereses sobre la suma de £200,000, según los nuevos contratos de 11 de marzo y 10 de agosto de 1907, al tipo del 6 por ciento anual	$60,000.00
Para amortizar los bonos correspondientes á los últimos 8 kilómetros de vía férrea entregados hasta la estación del hospicio por esta misma empresa, á razón de $10,000 por kilómetro	80,000.00
Para pagar el valor correspondiente á las tres unidades del producto de las aduanas del Atlántico que corresponden á la amortización de bonos del Ferrocarril Nacional del Occidente de Colombia	177,884.94
Para pagar el valor de las libranzas del Ferrocarril del Cauca con el 50 por ciento del producto bruto de las aduanas de Buenaventura y Tumaco.	364,018.18
Para pagar el valor de las libranzas del Ferrocarril del Sur y los intereses correspondientes	121,942.00
Para pagar á los Departamentos de Cundinamarca y de Quesada	83,353.88
Para pagar los sueldos de los inspectores de los ferrocarriles á cargo del Gobierno	10,800.00
Para pagar á los ingenieros que comisione el Gobierno para recibir trayectos terminados de vías férreas y otros gastos	2,000.00
Suma total	900,000.00

CUBA.

LAS RENTAS DEL ESTADO DURANTE 1907.

Según estadísticas oficiales publicadas en el número de enero de 1908 del "Boletín Oficial" de la Cámara de Comercio, Industria y Navegación de la Isla de Cuba, los ingresos fiscales de la República durante el año de 1907 ascendieron á $29,118,827.29, suma que comparada con la de $27,418,435.14 recaudada en 1906, arroja un aumento de $1,700,392.15. La recaudación obtenida en 1907 del impuesto para el empréstito ascendió á $3,692,786.16, que en comparación con la cantidad de $3,683,742.84 percibida por el mismo concepto en 1906, acusa un aumento de $9,043.32.

CHILE.

RENTAS ADUANERAS DURANTE EL AÑO DE 1907.

Las rentas aduaneras recaudadas en los varios puertos de la República de Chile durante el año de 1907 ascendieron á la suma de 120,305,347.90 pesos, que, comparada con la de 113,316,238.58, pesos recaudada en 1906, acusa un aumento ne 6,989,109.32 pesos. La cantidad recaudada durante el mes de diciembre de 1907 fué de 12,734,256.90 pesos, en comparación con 12,009,435.32, pesos, cantidad percibida en el mismo mes de 1906.

PRESUPUESTO DE LOS FERROCARRILES DEL ESTADO PARA 1908.

El presupuesto total de gastos de los ferrocarriles del Estado para el año de 1908 asciende á 46,406,250.50 pesos, suma que se distribuye en la siguiente forma:

	Pesos.
Red Central	43,896,250.50
Ferrocarril de Chañaral	635,000.00
Huasco	225,000.00
Coquimbo	1,320,000.00
Tongoi	170,000.00
Los Vilos	160,000.00
Total	46,406,250.50

EL FERROCARRIL LONGITUDINAL.

El siguiente es el texto del decreto que se promulgó el 23 de enero de 1908, autorizando la construcción del Ferrocarril Longitudinal.

ART. 1° Se autoriza al Presidente de la República, por el término de tres años, para contratar á precio alzado en conjunto ó por secciones, el estudio, la construcción y el equipo de los ferrocarriles necesarios para unir la ciudad Ligua con el puerto de Papudo y el de Arica. La línea entre Ligua y Copiapó deberá estar terminada antes de cinco años.

ART. 2°. El precio total de las obras no excederá de 7,500,000 libras esterlinas, y se pagará con una amortización acumulativa que no baje de un medio por ciento anual. Mientras no se cancele dicho precio, los contratistas explotarán por su cuenta las líneas férreas con tarifas aprobadas por el Gobierno, y el Estado les garantiza un interés de 5 por ciento al año.

ART. 3°. Se autoriza el arrendamiento de las líneas férreas fiscales intermedias entre Ligua y Chañaral durante le construcción de los ferrocarriles á que se refiere el artículo 1° y durante su explotación por los contratistas. Las tarifas se fijarán con la aprobación del Gobierno.

ART. 4°. Se autoriza el Presidente de la República, por el término de un año, para contratar á precio alzado la construcción de los ferrocarriles de Curicó á Llico, y del Arbol á Pichilemu, por sumas que no excedan de 7,500,000 pesos oro de 18 peniques el primero, y de 2,500,000 pesos, de la misma moneda, el segundo.

ART. 5°. Se declaran de utilidad los terrenos particulares ó municipales, que se requieran para la construcción de los anteriores ferrocarriles, sus estaciones y anexos, en conformidad con los planos que apruebe el Presidente de la República.

La expropiación se llevará á cabo en conformidad con la ley de 18 de junio de 1857, pudiendo iniciarse las gestiones del caso durante el término de cinco años.

Serán libres de derechos de internación los materiales necesarios para la construcción de las líneas férreas indicadas en el artículo 1° y para explotación durante cinco años. El Presidente de la República fijará la clase y cantidad de los artículos liberados.

ART. 6°. Se autoriza la inversión de 3,000,000 de pesos en expropiaciones de terrenos, inspección técnica y otros gastos de los ferrocarriles autorizados por los artículos anteriores, y de 300,000 pesos para estudios de puertos.

ART. 7°. La expropiación de la línea de Ligua al puerto de Arica, por los contratistas, estará sometida á la ley de 6 de agosto de 1862.

ART. 8°. Los contratos que se celebren en conformidad con la presente ley, no podrán transferirse sin autorización del Presidente de la República.

Los contratistas y las personas que representen sus derechos, aun cuando sean extranjeros y no residan en Chile, se considerarán como domiciliados en la República y quedarán sujetos á las leyes del país, como si fueran chilenos, para todo cuanto se relacione con el cumplimiento de dichos contratos, entendiéndose que éstos ó quienes adquieran sus derechos, no podrán recurrir al amparo diplomático en cualquiera dificultad que por la misma causa se produjere.

LA HACIENDA PÚBLICA.

El 28 de octubre ultimo el Ministro de Hacienda hizo constar que su antecesor había manifestado que los ingresos del año de 1907 podían calcularse como sigue:

Saldó sobrante de 1906	$13,583,490.73
Ingresos ordinarios	147,500.000.00
Ingresos extraordinarios	29,500,000.00
Total	190,583,490.73

Los gastos calculados de 1907 ascendieron á $193,627,373, descontando $21,000,000 derivados de las sumas asignadas para la construcción del Ferrocarril de Arica al Alto de La Paz y para el alcantarillado de Santiago. Por tanto, los gastos del presupuesto quedaron reducidos á $172,000,000. Deben agregarse, en cambio de esa rebaja, los gastos autorizados por leyes especiales y que ascienden á un total de $11,610,485.57.

Por las cifras que anteceden se demuestra que el gasto probable ascendía á $184,437,798.76 y que al terminar el año de 1907 había un sobrante de $66,645,991.97.

PAGO DE LOS DERECHOS DE ADUANA Y ALMACENAJE.

Una ley del Congreso Nacional de la República de Chile, aprobada el 9 de septiembre de 1907, y publicada en el "Diario Oficial" del 11 del mismo mes, dispone que el pago de los derechos de importación y almacenaje se efectúe en papel moneda con el recargo correspondiente y en la forma establecida por la ley No. 1992 de 27 de agosto de 1907.

EXPOSICIÓN DE CALZADO NACIONAL Y DE CURTIDURÍA EN 1907.

Según el "Boletín de la Sociedad de Fomento Fabril" de Santiago de Chile, para el mes de diciembre de 1907, la Exposición de Calzado Nacional y de Curtiduría de 1907, se inauguró oficialmente el 18 de octubre último en la capital de la República Chilena. En esta exposición la industria de la curtiduría y de la fabricación de calzado demostraron hallarse en un estado de adelanto y de perfeccionamiento sobresalientes, y sus productos manufacturados llamaron justamente la atención del público en general. El número de las fábricas que concurrieron á la exposición fué de 23, hallándose incluídas en esa cifra tanto las curtiembres como las fábricas de calzado.

Las cifras que se publican á continuación son relativas á los establecimientos que tomaron parte: Producción anual de cueros curtidos y suelas, 160,000 pesos; producción diaria de calzado, 5,670 pares; número de operarios empleados en las fábricas, 3,510; total de los capitales invertidos, 16,490,000 pesos.

Existen, además, en la República otras fábricas de cuero y calzado, cuyo capital total se calcula en unos 34,000,000 de pesos.

Con estas cifras á la vista, puede tenerse una pequeña idea de lo que representa en Chile la industria de la curtiduría y calzado, pudiendo avaluarse los capitales invertidos en la cantidad mínima de 50,000,000 de pesos. Estas dos industrias fomentan y dan vida á otras varias importantísimas, tales como la producción del lingüe, de la algarrobilla, la cal, y la fabricación de las cajas de cartón, industrias que representan un valor de 12,000,000 á 15,000,000 pesos para sus respectivos productores.

CANJE DE GIROS INTERNACIONALES CON EL JAPÓN.

Á partir del 1° de enero de 1908, se ha establecido el servicio de giros internacionales entre Chile y el Japón. Los giros podrán hacerse sobre cualquier punto del Japón, incluso las Islas Formosa, Pescadores, y Sakhalien japonés, y deberán establecerse en francos y céntimos, de acuerdo con las equivalencias prescritas para el caso. El máximum del valor será de 1,000 francos.

MINAS DE CARBÓN DE PIEDRA.

El carbón que en la actualidad se explota en Chile ha sido clasificado casi unánimemente como lignita, pero hay otras clases de carbón que no pueden clasificarse como tales.

El análisis del carbón de piedra de la Provincia de Araueo muestra que dicho producto tiene un valor calorífico que equivale á 92 y 93.8 por ciento, en comparación con el carbón inglés del sur y del norte de Gales. La comparación con los carbones de Australia todavía resulta más ventajosa para el carbón chileno, que también es mejor que el carbón japonés. En resumen, puede decirse que, á juzgar por los estudios y ensayos de que han sido objeto los depósitos carboníferos chilenos, así en Europa como en Chile, queda demostrada la superioridad de las vetas chilenas respecto de los combustibles denominados "lignitas."

Después de las debidas investigaciones, puede afirmarse que en Chile existen mantos de carbón que pueden producir un coque de buena calidad, que acaso sea eficaz para la fundición del hierro, y que sin duda alguna lo es para la fundición de otros minerales. Habiéndose descubierto en Chile una zona antracífera, como la de los yacimientos de Quilacoya y de Huimpil, cuyo producto contiene una gran proporción de carbón fijo con muy poco material volátil, no cabe ya dudar que la mezcla de los productos de esta zona con ciertos carbones de la costa es susceptible de producir un coque de buena calidad.

Los yacimientos que en la actualidad se explotan se encuentran en la costa sur de Chile, en una zona que linda por el norte con las

riberas septentrionales del Golfo de Talcahuano, por el sur con el puerto de Lebu, por el este con las cordilleras de la costa ó la de Nahuelbuta, y por el oeste con el mar. Los yacimientos más importantes se extienden hasta una distancia considerable bajo el mar, y en el territorio de Magallanes, cerca de Punta Arenas, también se explota una mina de carbón.

Á pesar de las ricas minas de carbón que existen en Chile, de 1901 hasta el primer semestre de 1906, dicha República ha tenido que hacer las siguientes importaciones de carbón para el consumo del país:

Año.	Carbón inglés.	Carbón australiano.	Carbón americano.	Total.
	Toneladas.	*Toneladas.*	*Toneladas.*	*Toneladas.*
1901	360,082	497,379	33,150	890,611
1902	395,024	399,427	34,887	829,338
1903	317,495	485,334	6,825	809,654
1904	445,742	457,020	11,323	914,085
1905	598,438	489,337	4,600	1,092,375
1906 de enero á junio inclusive	172,781	159,767	.....	332,548
Total	.....	.....	.....	4,868,611

IMPORTACIONES Y EXPORTACIONES POR LA ADUANA DE TALTAL.

En 1902 el valor de las importaciones que se hicieron por la precitada aduana ascendió á 1,327,188 pesos; el de 1906 ascendió á 6,995,204 pesos, que representa casi una setuplicación del valor de las mercancías importadas en comparación con 1902. En el quinquenio de 1902 á 1906, se importaron mercancías por valor de más de 20,500,000 pesos.

El valor de las exportaciones de 1902 á 1906, muestra un aumento de más de un 150 por ciento, puesto que en 1902 el valor de las exportaciones ascendió á 294,758 pesos, en tanto que en 1906 ascendió á 25,043,746 pesos, ó sea un total de 81,063,903 pesos en los cinco años de referencia.

El valor de las importaciones en el comercio de cabotaje en 1902 ascendió á 4,003,297 pesos, y el de las exportaciones ascendió á 593,211 pesos, en tanto que en 1906 el valor de las primeras ascendió á 15,759,583 pesos, y el de las segundas ascendió á 1,211,401 pesos.

En 1902 las rentas de aduana de dicho puerto ascendió á 3,248,187 pesos, y dicha renta en 1906 ascendió á 7,376,552 pesos, habiéndose obtenido en el quinquenio de referencia un total de 25,635,757 pesos.

En los siete primeros meses del año de 1907 dicha renta ascendió á 3,687,688 pesos, lo cual indica que dicho aumento ha de seguir de año en año.

ECUADOR.

LA RENTA MUNICIPAL DE GUAYAQUIL.

La renta municipal de la ciudad de Guayaquil en 1907 se calcula en $1,237,082 sucres ($618,450) como sigue:

Derechos de exportación sobre el cacao	$180,000
Mercados, rastros, etc	129,000
Contribución del agua	50,000
Contribución sobre licores, matrículas, etc	92,000
Alumbrado público	24,000
Dos por ciento sobre derechos de importación	22,000

Los gastos, que son iguales á los ingresos, destinan $97,000 para la limpieza de calles, alumbrado, etc.; $50,000 para los servicios de administración; $29,000 para la policía municipal; $25,000 para instrucción pública; $39,500 para beneficencia pública; $180,000 para el servicio de la deuda, y $105,000 para obras públicas.

SERVICIO DE LOS BONOS DEL FERROCARRIL DE GUAYAQUIL Y QUITO.

En conformidad con la proposición hecha por el Presidente del Ecuador, los tenedores de bonos y accionistas del Ferrocarril de Guayaquil y Quito acordaron que la parte de los fondos destinada al pago del cupón de junio de 1907, en vez de aplicarse al servicio ó pago del empréstito, se emplee para obtener la terminación de la línea hasta Quito en 1907. Así se hizo, de acuerdo con lo resuelto, y el Gobierno hizo otros anticipos hasta el valor total del cupón, que es como de $450,000.

El dinero para llevar á cabo esta obra se obtuvo mediante la emisión de 1,000,000 de sucres ($500,000) en bonos de la aduana, á favor de ciertos comerciantes de Guayaquil, contra pagarés descontados por el Banco del Ecuador, ó contra pagos al contado, á un descuento convenido. Estos bonos se aceptan á la par en pago de un 50 por ciento de derechos de exportación generales, y un 100 por ciento de todos los derechos de exportación sobre la tagua ó marfil vegetal.

EMISIÓN DE BONOS DEL FERROCARRIL DE GUAYAQUIL Á QUITO.

El 15 de enero de 1908 el Presidente de la República del Ecuador expidió un decreto autorizando la emisión de 12,289 bonos de 188 sucres cada uno, ó sean $90, para facilitar el pago de los cupones semestrales correspondiente á los bonos del ferrocarril que llevan las fechas de enero 2 y julio 2 de 1908 y enero 2 de 1909.

Desde el 2 de julio de 1908 dichos bonos devengarán un interés de 4 por ciento anual, y la amortización, que se efectuará en diez años,

también devengará un interés de un 4 por ciento, y desde el 1° de enero de 1909 quedan garantizados con la renta íntegra que produce el monopolio de la sal.

ESTADO DE LOS ASUNTOS DOMÉSTICOS.

Según el informe presentado por el Cónsul Británico en Guayaquil, correspondiente al año de 1907, las condiciones ecuatorianas muestran una mejora en cuanto atañe al valor de los productos del país, tales como el cacao, la goma, los sombreros, etc., en tanto que el valor de las importaciones también ha aumentado.

En cuanto á las obras públicas, se hace constar que el Ferrocarril de Quito ha sido la empresa principal, habiéndose extendido gradualmente hasta Mocha, Ambato, Latacunga y Chasqui, al paso que los últimos informes, que alcanzan hasta el 1° de enero de 1902, anuncian que el dicho ferrocarril había llegado hasta Aloasi, que queda como á una distancia de 35 kilómetros de Quito.

El contrato celebrado entre el Gobierno y la Compañía de Ferrocarril de Quayaquil y Quito estipula que dicha línea debe terminarse y llegar hasta Quito parael 14 de junio de 1907, y á causa de haber dejado de cumplir los términos del contrato, se han nombrado árbitros para ajustar los varios puntos que están en disputa entre las partes contratantes.

El ferrocarril de Puerto Bolívar y Achala adelantó lentamente en 1906–7, y llegó hasta los distritos productores de cacao, y ha prestado buenos servicios en al transporte de productos al puerto de mar.

El Cónsul CARTRIGHT anuncia que, á lo que parece, los empresarios originales del Ferrocarril de Huigra á Cuenca han abandonado el proyecto. Los trabajos hechos en el camino hasta Chone, en el distrito de cacao de Bahía, aunque se comenzaron con fondos públicos, han sido abandonados, y el material, etc., que se importó para dicha construcción, se ha dejado á la intemperie. También se habla de la suspensión de los trabajos en la línea de Curaray, así como en el camino de hierro de Santa Rosa á Zaruma, los ferrocarriles de Guayaquil á Salinas y de Manta á Santa Ana.

En Guayaquil se ha terminado ya el nuevo mercado, y la salud pública ha mejorado mucho mediante el empleo del sistema Dixon para destruir los derechos de la ciudad. También se anuncian otras construcciones de edificios, y un aumento en la población, que en la actualidad se calcula de 80,000 á 90,000 habitantes.

Se ha instalado el alumbrado eléctrico en las principales calles, los muelles y desembarcaderos, así como en los nuevos suburbios de la Capital. Se proyecta generar potencia eléctrica por conducto de las corrientes procedentes de las montañas, ó las que hay al pie de las cordilleras, y que están á una distancia como de 55 á 58 millas, y además se están activando mucho los trabajos de la línea de tranvía eléctrica.

Se han celebrado contratos en Quito y Riobamba para construir nuevos sistemas de abastecimiento de agua, habiéndose celebrado dicho contrato con un ingeniero de los Estados Unidos.

La producción de azúcar aumenta constantemente en toda la República, habiendo ascendido á 7,000 toneladas en 1906. Sin embargo, el consumo de este dulce se ha aumentado proporcionalmente, y antes de recogerse la zafra de 1907, se habían importado 1,200 toneladas.

Por una ley que fué sancionada á fines de 1906, se suprimió el derecho de importación sobre el azúcar, lo cual ha dado por resultado que en la actualidad pueda importarse azúcar del Perú y de la América Central sin más costo que el de flete y manipulación. Además, esto ha hecho bajar los precios al nivel del costo de los azúcares importados.

La industria de cerveza en Guayaquil ha continuado sin interrupción, pero la rebaja en los derechos de importación sobre la cerveza extranjera, ha aumentado la competencia con la cerveza alemana y americana.

La sal, cuya producción es un monopolio del Gobierno, en 1906-7 se exportó con utilidad á Tumaco y Buenaventura, en Colombia. Sin embargo, hasta ahora estas exportaciones son muy limitadas. Las fábricas de algodón del interior han sufrido algún entorpecimiento debido á la escasez de materia prima, y se proyecta importar algodón del Perú, por más que el derecho de importación sobre este producto asciende como á 5 centavos por libra. Á causa de la escasez de harina, en diciembre de 1906 se dictó una ley que prescribe la libre entrade del trigo, así como de otros cereales, tales como chícharos, frijoles, etc.

Los embarques de cacao que constituyen la mayor parte de las exportaciones del Ecuador, permanecen prácticamente en el mismo estado, habiéndose exportado poco menos de 21,000 toneladas en los últimos años de 1905 y 1906, pero se advierte un aumento en el valor de dicho producto. El término medio del precio que se obtuvo en 1905 fué $15 por cada 50 kilogramos, puestos libres de costo á bordo en Guayaquil, y este precio en 1906 subió á $17, y en 1907 á $23.50. Este aumento ha sido un gran beneficio para el comercio y la industria agrícola, y ha contribuído á aumentar considerablemente el valor de las exportaciones ecuatorianas.

El marfil vegetal constituye el segundo producto en cantidad y valor de todas las exportaciones ecuatorianas, habiéndose exportado 19,036 toneladas métricas en 1905, y 21,796 toneladas métricas en 1906. El precio de este artículo también ha aumentado notablemente. En 1905 el promedio del precio fué $4 en la concha, y $2.75 sin la concha, por cada 100 libras. En 1906 el precio subió á $4.50 y $3 por el marfil vegetal con concha y sin ella, respectivamente,

y habiéndose aumentado grandemente los derechos de exportación en 1907, los consumidores europeos que obtienen como un 75 por ciento del total de sus importaciones del Equador, y como un 25 por ciento de Colombia, se han visto obligados á comprar á precios más subidos que varían desde $3.50 por el producto sin concha hasta $5.75 por el producto con concha. La proporción de las exportaciones es como de un 60 por ciento del marfil vegetal con concha, y como un 40 por ciento sin ella.

El valor de los sombreros de paja, que constituyen el tercer artículo de exportación, continúa mostrando un aumento, pues el valor de los que se exportaron en 1904 ascendió á $350,000, en 1905 á $440,000, y en 1906, á $1,220,000, valor que el precitado Cónsul considera mucho menor que el valor intrínseco de dicho producto.

El cultivo de la goma se ha hecho con actividad y entusiasmo, habiéndose extendido hasta distritos que se hallan muy distantes de los puertos ó de los caminos regulares, y se calcula que en 1906 la producción de goma ascendió á 620 toneladas.

Los materiales que se emplean en los ferrocarriles y sistemas de abastecimiento de agua, se importan principalmente de los Estados Unidos, en tanto que casi todos los géneros de algodón, las camas de hierro, el hierro galvanizado, las barras y los tubos de hierro, etc., la hoja de lata y los efectos de hoja de lata, los sacos y otros efectos de cáñamo, así como los géneros de lino y casimires, se importan de Inglaterra.

ESTADOS UNIDOS.

COMERCIO CON LA AMÉRICA LATINA.

IMPORTACIONES Y EXPORTACIONES.

En la página 590 aparece la última relación en detalle del comercio entre los Estados Unidos y la América Latina, tomada de la compilación hecha por la Oficina de Estadística del Departamento de Comercio y Trabajo de los Estados Unidos. Estos datos se refieren al valor del comercio arriba mencionado. La estadística coresponde al mes de enero de 1908, comparada con la del mes correspondiente del año anterior, y también comprende los datos referentes á los siete meses que terminaron en enero de 1908, comparados con igual período de 1907. Debe explicarse que las estadísticas de las importaciones y exportaciones de las diversas aduanas referentes á un mes cualquiera no se reciben en el Departamento de Comercio y Trabajo hasta el 20 del mes siguiente, necesitándose algún tiempo para su compilación é impresión; de suerte que los datos estadísticos correspondientes al mes de enero, por ejemplo, no se publican hasta marzo.

CONVENCIÓN PARA EL ARBITRAJE DE RECLAMACIONES PECUNIARIAS.

El Gobierno de los Estados Unidos ha publicado la Convención que fué ratificada por el Senado el 2 de marzo de 1907, y firmada el 13 de agosto de 1906, por los Delegados de los Gobiernos representados en la Tercera Conferencia Internacional de Estados Americanos, continuando vigente la Convención que prescribe el arbitraje de reclamaciones pecuniarias que fué firmada el 30 de enero de 1902 por los Delegados á la Segunda Conferencia Internacional, excepción hecha de su artículo tercero.

RATIFICACIÓN DE LA CONVENCIÓN SOBRE CÓDIGOS DE DERECHO INTERNATIONAL.

El día 3 de 1908, el Senado de los Estados Unidos ratificó la Convención que había sido firmada en Río de Janeiro el 23 de agosto de 1906, por los Delegados de los Gobiernos representados en la Tercera Conferencia Internacional de Estados Americanos, encaminada á establecer una comisión internacional de jurisconsultos con el fin de redactar códigos de derecho internacional público y privado, que han de regir las relaciones entre las naciones de América.

DATOS ESTADÍSTICOS RELATIVOS AL GANADO EN 1908.

El Departamento de Agricultura de los Estados Unidos ha hecho el siguiente informe acerca del número y el valor del ganado existente en las fincas de labor y de crianza que había en el país el 1 de enero de 1908.

Caballos, 19,992,000, valuados en $1,867,530,000; mulas, 3,869,000, valuados en $416,939,000; vacas de leche, 21,194,000, valuadas en $650,057,000; ganado de otra clase 50,073,000, valuado en $845,938,000; ganado de otra clase, 50,073,000, valuado en $845,938,000; carneros, 54,631,000, valuados en $211,736,000; cerdos, 56,084,000, valuados en $339,030,000.

En comparación con la misma fecha del año anterior, aparece un aumento de 245,000 caballos, 52,000 mulas, 226,000 vacas de leche; en tanto que en otras clases de ganado hubo una disminución de 1,493,000; en los carneros hubo un aumento de 1,391,000, y en los cerdos hubo un aumento de 1,290,000.

En el valor de los caballos hubo un aumento de $20,952,000, en el de las mulas hubo una disminución de $11,125,000, en el de las vacas de leche hubo un aumento de $4,560,000, en otras clases de ganado hubo una disminución de $35,619,000 en los carneros hubo un aumento de $7,526,000, en tanto que en el valor de los cerdos hubo una disminución de $78,761,000.

El valor total de todos los animales enumerados ascendió á $4,331,230,000, en comparación con $4,423,698,000 el 1°. de enero de 1907, lo cual muestra una disminución de $92,468,000, ósea un 2.1 por ciento.

EXPORTACIONES DE CARNES Y ANIMALES PARA EL CONSUMO EN 1907.

En 1907 los datos estadísticos completos relativos á las exportaciones de animales para el consumo y carnes de los Estados Unidos muestran una disminución de $4,637,040 en al valor de los primeros, y una disminución de $6,553,359 en el de las segundas, en comparación con el año anterior.

En 1907 el valor total de las exportaciones de carnes ascendió á $192,962,623, contra $199,515,982 en 1906, en tanto que el valor de los embarques de animales para el consumo en los dos períodos ascendió á $34,808,819 y $39,445,859, respectivamente. Las mermas principales en el valor de las carnes en el comercio del año ocurrieron en el tocino, que ascendió como á $13,000,000; la manteca, $2,500,000; carnes en latas y ahumadas, $1,500,000 en cada una, y otras disminuciones menores en los chorrizos y los productos de oleomargarina. En los jamones se muestra un aumento de $3,000,000; en carne de puerco preparada, $2,500,000; en compuestos de manteca, $2,000,000; en carne de vaca fresca, $1,500,000; en aceite, $1,250,000, y en latas de chorrizos, $750,000.

El valor de los animales para el consumo muestra una merma de $4,500,000; en los puercos, $37,000, y en los carneros, $123,000.

LAS IMPORTACIONES DE CAFÉ EN 1907.

En el año común de 1907, el total de las importaciones de café que hicieron los Estados Unidos ascendió á 940,247,312 libras, contra 857,013,585 en el año anterior. De la cantidad importada el Brasil suministró 727,187,465 libras, ó sea 77.34 por ciento, en tanto que el continente americano suministró cerca de un 98 por ciento.

Los países Sud-Americanos, sin incluir al Brasil, suministraron 103,536,649 libras; los Estados de la América Central suministraron 67,704,098 libras, en tanto que México suministró 14,822,658, dejando así un poco más de un 2 por ciento del abastecimiento, que procedió de las Indias Orientales, Europa, África, y otras partes de Asia.

En 1907 el consumo por cabeza llegó casi á 11 libras, y el promedio del costo de importación, según lo anuncia la aduana, ascendió á 7.64 centavos por libra.

LAS EXPORTACIONES DE ARTÍCULOS DE GOMA EN 1907.

En 1907 el valor de las exportaciones de artículos de goma elástica y gutapercha, procedentes de los Estados Unidos, se calculó oficial-

mente en $6,993,333, en comparación con $5,658,606 en 1906. Estos artículos incluyen correas, empaquetaduras y mangueras; botas y zapatos, y todas las demás clases de artículos de goma. El valor de los primeros ascendió á $1,402,373; el de los segundos ascendió á $1,646,880, y el de todos los demás ascendió á $3,944,080.

LA INDUSTRIA TABACALERA EN 1907.

Los datos estadísticos compilados por el periódico intitulado "United States Tobacco Journal," tomados de los informes mensuales de los ingresos de la renta interna del país, muestran que en 1907 hubo un aumento de 20,258,907 tabacos elaborados, en comparación con 1906, es decir, en 1907 se elaboraron 7,353,232,089 y en 1906, 7,373,490,996. El número de los tabacos de pequeña bitola, que antes era de 994,701,207, ascendió á 1,069,079,350, ó sea un aumento de 74,288,147, en tanto que en 1907 los cigarrillos muestran un aumento de 930,061,509 respecto de 1906, es decir, en 1907 se fabricaron 5,298,790,523 y en 1906, 4,368,727,015.

El tabaco elaborado para otros usos también muestra un gran aumento en 1907 respecto del año anterior, es decir, en 1907 se elaboraron 361,060,437 libras en comparación con 358,963,279 libras en 1906, ó sea un aumento de 2,097,158 libras.

LA DESINFECCIÓN DE CUEROS IMPORTADOS.

El Departamento del Tesoro de Washington en la última semana de enero de 1908 expidió la siguiente orden que revoca la orden que se expidió recientemente sobre desinfección de cueros extranjeros, y prescribe el siguiente nuevo procedimiento:

Por recomendación del Secretario de Agricultura, por la presente se revoca la Circular del Departamento de 18 de julio de 1907 (Decisión del Tesoro número 28336) relativa á la desinfección de cueros importados.

De acuerdo con las prescripciones de la Decisión del Tesoro número 23212 del 30 de julio de 1901, se exigirán certificados de desinfección á la entrada de todos los cueros del ganado que se haya destinado al consumo, cuando no estén secos, salados ó preparados con arsénico, procedentes de los países europeos, África, Asia, Australia y la América del Sur.

Se han dado instrucciones á los oficiales de Aduana para que consideren como importaciones prohibidas los cueros del ganado que se haya destinado al consumo que se embarcan á los Estados Unidos sin haber sido debidamente desinfectados, y que rehusen la entrada de dichos cueros, en los cuales deberán incluirse los de terneros, los recortes de cueros y material para cola, así como los productos del ganado que se ha destinado al consumo que se embarquen de cualesquiera de los precitados países, con excepción de los cueros, raeduras.

recortes y el material para cola que esté seco, salado ó preparado con arsénico ó que se haya secado con cal después dehaberse remojado durante cuarenta días en una solución fuetre de cal (Decisión del Tesoro número 15648 y decisión del Tesoro número 15753) y excepto los cueros del rastro que son productos de Suecia, Noruega y la Gran Bretaña (Decisión del Tesoro número 20582) y los cueros sacados del ganado americano matado en sus guaridas en la Gran Bretaña, en todos los casos en que las facturas no vayan acompañadas de los debidos certificados de inspección expedidos por los Cónsules. americanos en los distritos en que se importen dichos cueros, y no se permitirá la desinfección de dichos cueros en este país, ó su almacenaje en un almacén de depósito general, puesto que el paso de cueros enfermos por el país ó su almacenaje con otras mercanícas, propendería á propagar la enfermedad del ganado en los Estados Unidos.

GUATEMALA.

ESTADO DEL COMERCIO EN 1906.

Según un informe preparado por el Encargado de Negocios francés en Guatemala, los países que representan la proporción mayor del comercio de Guatemala son Alemania, Inglaterra y los Estados Unidos. La siguiente tabla muestra el valor de las importaciones hechas de diferentes países en 1905 y 1906:

Países.	1905.	1906.
Estados Unidos	$3,067,018.71	$3,037,796.93
Inglaterra	1,570,114.26	1,533,809.26
Alemania	1,408,509,39	1,661,895.49
Francia	269,474.24	374,317.60
México	111,779.33	46,246.19
Bélgica	101,229.45	147,215.89
España	86,313.84	119,317.00
Italia	83,290.60	112,348.30
América del Sur	58,408.46	23,995.64
Japón y China	54,793.76	87,047.03
América Central	27,149.49	49,083.87

Los géneros de algodón representan 28.80 por ciento de los artículos importados; los efectos conservados en lata, los vinos y licores representan 17.19 por ciento, y la maquinaria y materiales para ferrocarriles representan un 14 por ciento.

El valor de las importaciones de material para ferrocarriles que en 1905 sólo llegó á $93,811.25, en 1906 ascendió á $467,902.24, ó sea un aumento de $347,090.99, que se debe á la construcción de un ferrocarril que ha de conectar á Guatemala con Puerto-Barrios, en la Costa del Atlántico.

Al establecer una comparación de las exportaciones de los principales artículos en estos dos años, se obtienen los siguientes resultados:

Artículos.		1905.	1906.
Café descascarado	quintales.	507,639.71	483,179.94
Café sin descascarar	id.	378,970.71	251,538.22
Cueros	id.	10,673.44	14,028.40
Goma	id.	3,680.46	3,881.06
Maderas	pies cúbicos.	4,386,614.00	3,568,742.00
Bananos	racimos.	409,413.00	516,996.00
Azúcar	quintales.	32,598.92	15,729.22

La disminución general en las exportaciones en 1906 se debe á la baja en el cambio.

Los principales mercados para las exportaciones fueron los siguientes: Alemania, que compró 55.45 por ciento del café; los Estados Unidos compraron 29.08 por ciento; Inglaterra, que compró 12.86 por ciento. Siguen en orden de importancia, Chile, Austria, España, que representan un 1 por ciento. Francia no figura en esta lista á causa de los derechos que cobra. En cuanto á la goma, las compras que hizo Alemania representan un 76 por ciento; los Estados Unidos 12.45 por ciento; en cuanto á las maderas, los Estados Unidos compran 59.29 por ciento; Alemania compra 86.46 por ciento de los cueros, el Canadá compra 49.14 por ciento del azúcar; los Estados Unidos compran 37.96 por ciento y el Japón 12.84 por ciento.

Todos los bananos se embarcan para los Estados Unidos.

La siguiente tabla muestra el valor de las exportaciones de Guatemala á los principales países en 1905 y 1906:

Países.	1905.	1906.
Alemania	$4,078,643.46	$3,819,767.14
Estados Unidos	2,875,335.35	2,159,880.87
Inglaterra	1,050,487.39	864,991.64
México	63,307.17	64,696.36
América del Sur	45,711.46	65,251.67
Austria-Hungría	37,088.84	55,516.02
España	9,275.16	37,087.05
Italia	17,788.28	3,233.72
América Central	7,637.92	4,578.63
Otros países	27,283.57	30,325.65

Las principales exportaciones de los Estados Unidos á Guatemala consistieron de alambre de cerca, aparatos eléctricos, arroz, utensilios domésticos, cristalería, bacalao, carnes secas y ahumadas, canela, vinos de California, harina, sebo, grasas, tocino, papas, calzado de todas clases, cotín, efectos en latas, artículos de peletería, carbón de piedra, jabones, efectos de ferretería, pinturas, pólvora, instrumentos de música, productos químicos y farmacéuticos, sombreros de fieltro y de otras clases, géneros de algodón y estampados, herraduras, tuberías, instrumentos de agricultura, hierro para construcciones,

maquinaria de fuerza de caballo ó hidraúlica, y materiales para ferrocarriles.

Con motivo de la inauguración del ferrocarril del norte, que connecta á Guatemala con la Costa del Atlántico, la importancia de Puerto-Barrios será mucho mayor, sobre todo en lo que se relaciona con el comercio de importación. El café siempre se embarcará por los Puertos de San José, Guatemala, Champerico, y Ocos, pero sólo recibirán mercancías procedentes de San Francisco, México, y, in cantidades menores, de los países sudamericanos que quedan próximos á la Costa del Atlántico, en tanto que el tráfico por el Istmo de Panamá llegará á ser insignificante.

Guatemala produce un promedio de 7,000,000 á 8,000,000 de quintales de café al año, y en algunos años excepcionales la producción ha ascendido á 10,000,000 de quintales. El saco de café que pesa 100 libras españolas, vale de $7 á $10. Al salir del país, el café paga un derecho de $1 en oro, que cobra el Gobierno, y además 75 centavos en oro por el transporte al Puerto de San José, y 2 francos por derechos de embarque y de muelle. Si á esta cantidad se agrega la comisión que cobra el vendedor, la cantidad del flete y seguro marítimos, resulta una suma que varía desde 10 hasta 12 francos por quintal.

El trigo se cultiva especialmente en Chimaltenango, Huelmetenango, Quezaltenango, Quiché, San Marcos, Solola y Totonicapan, y la producción sólo ascendió á 150,000, quintales que no representan ni la mitad de la cantidad que se necesita para el consumo doméstico. El maíz y los frijoles constituyen el alimento principal de los hijos del país, pero el cultivo de estos artículos está disminuyendo. El arroz se cultiva en todos los Departamentos que tienen un clima caliente y húmedo, pero la cantidad que se produce todavía es demasiado pequeña para abastecer la demanda. Otro tanto puede decirse en cuanto á las papas, que también tienen que ser importadas, aunque su cultivo se ha aumentado algo en las regiones más frías. También se cultivan la zarzaparrilla, la vainilla y el algodón, este último en muy pequeña escala, á pesar del hecho de que el Gobierno le ha hecho ciertas concesiones á los que lo cultivan, y de que hay terrenos muy propicios para dicho cultivo, en los cuales se han hecho ensayos que han dado buenos resultados.

El tabaco que se cultiva en Guatemala no es de superior calidad, y en Chiquimula, Coban, Jutiapa y Zacapa se cultiva en una escala muy pequeña, á pesar de la prima que el Gobierno le concede á los cultivadores. La "United States Fruit Company" cultiva las frutas y especialmente los bananos, en el Departamento de Isabel, y envía los productos á Nueva Orleans. El Gobierno le ha concedido primas á los que cultivan la goma. El cacao que se produce en Guatemala es de superior calidad, y se consume en todas partes en el país, por más que es un 50 por ciento más caro que el cacao importado. El cultivo

de la caña de azúcar constituye una de las industrias más importantes á juzgar por las fincas en las cuales se cultiva, que ascienden á 1,300 y comprenden un área de más de 15,000 hectáreas.

En Guatemala hay muchas minas, pero hasta ahora se han explotado pocas y de una manera muy anticuada. En el oeste de dicha República se encuentran minas que los índios han explotado durante largo tiempo, al paso que en el este del país hay minas de zinc, plomo, cobre y plata que, con la inauguración del ferrocarril del norte y la línea que conecta á Zacapa con la frontera del Salvador, se convertirán en una fuente de gran riqueza para el país. La falta de medios de comunicación y los altos precios que se cobran por el transporte de dichos metales, constituyen una gran rémora para el desarrollo de la industria minera.

En la parte oriental de la República se encuentran el zinc y el plomo en gran abundancia. En la parte central, los depósitos de los ríos Motagna y Polychic contienen arenas auríferas, en tanto que en la costa del norte, cerca de Santo Tomás, se encuentran ricas minas de carbón de piedra que no se han explotado aún. En los alrededores de Quezaltenango se encuentra el azogue, y los índios lo extraen en pequeñas cantidades, pero nada más que para el consumo local. También se encuentran el ópalo, el cuarzo, amianto, talco, azufre, alumbre y la mica de muy buena calidad.

Las leyes del país favorecen la industria minera, y al que denuncia minas le conceden la exención de toda contribución al explotarla, quedando obligado únicamente al pago de una indemnización al dueño del terreno donde se haya descubierto la mina, pero á pesar de lo que queda expuesto, la expresada industria todavía está en su infancia.

Los hijos del país no carecen de ideas ni de habilidad, según puede verse por las varias empresas en que se han ocupado, y muchos de los artículos que fabrican pueden competir con los que se hacen en el extranjero.

Entre las industrias del país pueden mencionarse la fábrica de algodón de Cantel, cerca de Quezaltenango, que emplea 250 obreros y consume de 8,000 á 10,000 quintales de algodón por año; la "Central American Brewery," qus es la más importante de Guatemala, y que emplea 250 obreros y fabrica la cerveza de cevada chilena y lúpulo de Baviera; una pequeña fábrica de cerveza situada cerea de Quezaltenango, varias fábricas de aguas minerales, trapiches para moler caña de azúcar, talleres para secar y acondicionar el café, una fárica de calzado y otra de muebles que funcionan con maquinaria de vapor, situadas cerca de Quezaltenango.

Los tejidos del país consisten de cortes, ó enaguas, servilletas y delantales.

La ciudad de Guatemala obtiene su alumbrado de dos plantas eléctricas, una de las cuales está establecida á la entrada de la ciudad,

y la otra á una distancia de treinta millas. El alumbrado es bastante costoso, pues una lámpara de una potencia de doce bujías cuesta como 12 pesos al mes, ó sean como 5 francos.

En la ciudad de Antigua hay una tenería importante, pero los artículos que produce no son de muy buena calidad. Se han establecido otras tenerías pero no han tenido mucho éxito.

También hay una fábrica de jabones ordinarios y medicinales, así como de aguas de tocador, que se hacen de alcohol y que han dado resultados muy satisfactorios.

MÉXICO.

COMERCIO EXTERIOR EN LOS CINCO PRIMEROS MESES DE 1907–8.

Según datos publicados por la sección de estadística del Departamento de Hacienda de la República Mexicana, el valor de las importaciones durante los cinco primero meses de 1907–8 (julio á noviembre de 1907), ascendió á $103,403,272.82 en moneda mexicana, suma que, comparada con la de $87,947,188.68 en que estuvieron avaluadas las del mismo período del año anterior, demuestra un aumento de $15,456,084.14 en favor del corriente ejercicio. El valor de las importaciones que se hicieron durante el mes de noviembre de 1907 fué de $20,604,265.16, que en comparación con $19,572,488.49 del mismo mes de 1906, representa un aumento de $1,031,776.67.

Las exportaciones estuvieron avaluadas en la cantidad de $109,928,021.86 en moneda mexicana, que arroja un aumento de $13,786,352.06, comparada con la de $96,141,669.80 á que ascendió el valor de las despachadas durante los mismos meses de 1906–7. Los productos que se exportaron durante el mes de noviembre de 1907 representaron un valor de $23,554,571.60, comparado con el de $23,372,677.89 del mismo mes de 1906, es decir, un aumento de $181,893.71.

RENTAS ADUANERAS DURANTE LOS SIETE PRIMEROS MESES DE 1907–8.

Las aduanas de la República de México recaudaron durante los siete primeros meses del año económico de 1907–8 una renta total de $34,695,358.60, que se distribuye en la siguiente forma, dándose también las cifras correspondientes al mismo período de 1906–7 por vía de comparación:

	1907–8.	1906–7.
	Pesos.	*Pesos.*
Derechos de importación	$33,318,763.78	$29,203,319.31
Derechos de exportación	568,778.23	630,713.38
Derechos de puerto	807,816.59	608,396.88
Total	34,695,358.60	30,442,429.57

Comparando los totales, se observa un aumento de $4,252,929.03 á favor de los siete primeros meses de 1907–8.

ESTABLECIMIENTO DE ALMACENES REFRIGERADORES.

El día 15 de febrero de 1908, se promulgó el contrato celebrado entre el Gobierno de la República de México y la Compañía Empacadora Nacional Mexicana, para establecer en la República dos almacenes refrigeradores y cuatro mercados ó depósitos para la refrigeración, conservación y manejo de productos alimenticios. La cantidad mínima del capital que deberá invertir la compañía en estos establecimientos está fijada en 200,000 pesos. Los concesionarios podrán, además, establecer otros almacenes y mercados en los lugares de la República que conviniere á sus intereses, previa la aprobación de la Secretaría de Fomento. La duración del contrato es de diez años.

LOS NUEVOS CONSULADOS EN LA AMÉRICA CENTRAL.

Conforme á la reciente iniciativa presentada por la Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores al Congreso de la Unión, este poder aprobó la creación de nuevos consulados mexicanos en Centro-América. Las designaciones de nuevos consulados y los nombramientos de Cónsules fueron hechos por la Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores en la forma siguiente:

Guatemala: Cónsul, Señor Fidel Rodríguez Parra.

Nicaragua: Cónsul-General, Señor Juan B. Delgado.

Costa Rica: Cónsul-General, Señor José M. Chaparro.

Honduras: Cónsul-General, Señor José Manuel Gutiérrez Zamora.

Salvador: Cónsul-General, Señor Bernardo Ceballos.

BASE EN PLATA DE LOS IMPUESTOS DE TIMBRE Y ADUANA EN MARZO DE 1908.

La circular que bublica mensualmente el Departamento de Hacienda y Crédito Público de México anuncia que el precio legal por kilogramo de plata pura durante el mes de marzo de 1908 será de $36.62, con arreglo á los cálculos hechos de acuerdo con el decreto de 25 de marzo de 1905. Este precio servirá de base para calcular el impuesto de timbre y los derechos de aduanas.

DEPÓSITOS DE ASFALTO DE LA REPÚBLICA.

En un informe consular británico sobre los depósitos de asfaltos de la República de México, se hace constar que la producción de dicho artículo se limita principalmente á los distritos de Tuxpan y Tampico, en el Golfo de México. Se está efectuando un gran desarrollo en esta industria, especialmente en el distrito de Tuxpan, cuyo producto obtiene un precio muy alto en los mercados del mundo. En la

actualidad la demanda es mayor que el acopio que existe de dicho producto. De cuando en cuando se hacen pequeños embarques á Europa, y mayormente á Alemania. El promedio del precio del asfalto mexicano es como de 55 pesos mexicanos por tonelada.

El producto de Tampico consiste mayormente de los residuos del aceite producido por la "Mexican Petroleum Company," establecida en Ebano, que está á unas 40 millas al oeste de Tampico. Los productos de la destilación de este asfalto líquido sin refinar se usan como aceite de combustible. La destilería de Ebano puede producir como 50 toneladas de asfalto diarias, pero debido al limitado abastecimento de barriles que puede obtenerse para los fines del embarque, hasta ahora no ha producido la expresada cantidad.

Dícese que en los distritos de Tampico y Tuxpan hay centenares de millares de toneladas de asfalto, pero la producción de éste hasta ahora está en su infancia. En las cindades mayores de toda la República se aumenta rápidamente la demanda del asfalto, y se espera que dentro de pocos años esta industria se desarrolle considerablemente.

La terminación del Canal de Tuxpan también contribuirá grandemente á allanar las dificultades del transporte desde las zonas de asfalto hasta el puerto de Tampico.

NICARAGUA.

AUMENTO DE LA EMISIÓN DE BONOS DE EXPORTACIÓN.

Con fecha 6 de febrero de 1908, el Gobierno de Nicaragua dispuso aumentar la emisión de bonos de exportación decretada el 20 de noviembre de 1907, hasta la cantidad de $400,000 oro, incluyendo la ya emitida. De la emisión original se dió cuenta oportuna en el Boletín del mes de diciembre de 1907.

PRIVILEGIO PARA LA EXPLOTACIÓN DE LA GUTAPERCHA.

La "Gaceta Oficial" de Nicaragua, de fecha 28 de enero de 1908, publica el texto de un importante contrato celebrado entre el Gobierno y Don René John La Villebeuvre, celebrado el 28 de noviembre de 1907, y aprobado el 18 de diciembre de 1907 por la Asamblea Nacional Legislativa, por el cual se concede al contratista privilegio exclusivo, por veinte años, para extraer y elaborar la goma del árbol conocido generalmente con el nombre de tuno ó gutapercha en los terrenos nacionales de la zona que comprenden la comarca del Cabo de Gracias á Dios, el Distrito de Prinzapolka, el Departamento de Jinotega, y la parte del Departamento de Nueva Segovia situada al oriente del Meridiano ochenta y seis. El concesionario pagará al Gobierno 2 centavos oro por cada kilogramo de goma que se extraiga. El

Gobierno le concede por el tiempo del privilegio la libre importación de la maquinaria, etc., que sean necesarios para el establecimiento y desarrrollo de esta nueva industria.

PRIVILEGIO PARA LA EXPLOTACIÓN DE MINERALES Y PIEDRAS PRECIOSAS.

La Asamblea Nacional Legislativa de la República de Nicaragua aprobó el 6 de enero de 1908 un importante contrato celebrado entre el Gobierno y Don René John La Villebeuvre el 6 de diciembre de 1907, y publicado en la "Gaceta Oficial" del 28 de enero de 1908. Por los términos de dicho contrato, el Gobierno de Nicaragua cede en arrendamiento al mencionado Señor La Villebeuvre todas las minas, depósitos minerales, lavaderos, minas abandonadas de conformidad con la ley, terrenos y tierras, arroyos, camas de ríos, etc., que contengan oro, plata, carbón de piedra, aceites, piedras preciosas, y cualesquiera otras clases de minerales y metales preciosos; en una palabra, todo lo que pueda comprenderse bajo la denominación de minerales y piedras preciosas que se hallen situados en la jurisdicción de Prinzapolka, Departamento de Zelaya, en las quebradas Siuna y Malis, lo mismo que el río Banbana hasta su confluencia con el río llamado Banbana Cruz, en los afluentes de aquél desde sus cabeceras, y en una área que se extiende desde las expresadas quebradas, río Banbana y sus afluentes, con un ancho de 2½ kilómetros que se medirán de uno y otro lado del lecho y cabeceras respectivas. Se exceptúan las minas que hubieran sido denunciadas con anterioridad á la aprobación del contrato por la Asamblea Legislativa. Los trabajos de exploración deberán comenzar dentro de los seis meses siguientes á la misma fecha. Durante la vigencia del contrato, las minas explotadas por el concesionario estarán exentas de toda clase de impuesto, excepto los derechos de patente de que trata el Código de Minería, y, asimismo, la importación de maquinaria, herramientas, etc., para la explotación de que trata el contrato será libre. Como precio del arrendamiento, el concesionario pagará al Gobierno durante el período del contrato, el 10 por ciento de las ganancias líquidas. El concesionario podrá establecer líneas de embarcaciones en los ríos Prinzapolka y Banbana y sus afluentes, y también podrá construir un ferrocarril para facilitar sus trabajos de minería. La duración del contrato será de treinta años que empezarán á contarse desde la fecha de la aprobación legislativa.

DRAGAJE DE LA BARRA Y NAVEGACIÓN DEL RÍO GRANDE.

Con fecha 21 de diciembre de 1907, la Asamblea Nacional Legislativa de Nicaragua aprobó un contrato celebrado entre el Gobierno y el Doctor Jesús Hernández Somoza el 30 de noviembre de 1906 y publicado en la "Gaceta Oficial" del 21 de enero de 1908, para el

dragaje y la profundización de la barra del Río Grande, de tal manera que los vapores adecuados para el tráfico de bananos puedan penetrar en dicho río. La empresa dará principio á los trabajos al cabo de un año, y los terminará doce meses después de empezados, partiendo de la fecha de la ratificación del contrato por la Asamblea Legislativa. El capital que se empleará en la obra no bajará de $100,000 oro americano.

El concesionario establecerá la navegación á vapor ó gasolina, ó de ambos modos, en dicho Río Grande y sus tributarios, lo mismo que construirá tranvías, líneas telefónicas y telegráficas, y plantas eléctricas, comprometiéndose á hacer navegar el primer vapor dentro de dieciocho meses después de la aprobación legislativa del contrato, y á continuar la navegación citada por todo el tiempo que dure la concesión. Los vapores harán viajes periódicos de ida y vuelta desde la boca del río á un punto á lo largo del mismo. El Gobierno concede á la empresa el derecho de denunciar y adquirir 88,000 manzanas de terreno al precio que fija la ley agraria de 1902. El concesionario podrá introducir inmigrantes para colonizar y cultivar los terrenos que se le adjudiquen.

La empresa construirá una bodega y muelle en la Isla Man of War Cay, á fin de que los vapores oceánicos puedan embarcar y desembarcar la carga allá mientras se abre la barra de Río Grande y puedan penetrar en el río las embarcaciones. Por razones de conveniencia, se declara expresamente en el contrato que la Isla Man of War Cay será considerada como parte del puerto de Zelaya.

En compensación de los servicios que los intereses de la agricultura y el comercio reciban de la empresa, el Gobierno concede á ésta el derecho de cobrar un impuesto de 5 centavos por cada racimo ó parte de racimo de bananos que se embarquen para ser exportados. La empresa podrá también cobrar de 4 á 8 pesos oro por cada pie de calado delas embarcaciones que arriben al puerto. Durante el tiempo del convenio, los vapores, propiedades y productos de la empresa estarán exentos de impuestos, y asimismo tendrá derecho ésta para importar libre de derechos la maquinaria, materiales, etc., que necesite. Las balijas del correo serán trasportadas en los vapores de la compañía gratuitamente.

Las concesiones otorgadas en este contrato serán válidas por el término de treinta años, á contar desde la ratificación del Poder Legislativo, y á la expiración de ese tiempo las aduanas y los muelles pasarán á ser propiedad exclusiva del Gobierno. Los vapores, tranvías, teléfonos, y telégrafos serán vendidos al Gobierno, si lo deseare. La empresa se obliga á depositar en la Tesorería General de la República la cantidad de $5,000 oro americano, dentro de los seis meses siguientes á la ratificación de este contrato por la Asamblea Nacional.

NUEVO FERROCARRIL.

El Gobierno de Nicaragua ha celebrado un contrato con los Señores CERDA y MUÑOZ, por virtud del cual estos últimos se comprometen á organizar una compañía que tendrá por objeto construir un ferrocarril que se extenderá desde el puerto de San Juan del Sur por el Pacífico, pasará por Rivas y terminará en San Jorge ó en cualquier puerto habilitado en el Gran Lago. Dicha compañía se organizará dentro de los seis meses siguientes á la fecha en que dicho contrato sea aprobado por el Ejecutivo y ratificado por la Asamblea Nacional, y la nueva línea se denominará "Compañía del Ferrocarril Meridional."

Las estipulaciones principales del contrato son las siguientes:

La compañía hará los estudios completos para llevar á cabo la construcción de la línea, debiendo principiar los trabajos dentro de los treinta días siguientes á la fecha en que notifique al Gobierno haber quedado organizado, y los planos se someterán á la aprobación del Ministerio de Fomento, y al ser éstos aprobados, se comenzará la construcción de la línea.

La compañía contratante se compromete á darle á la vía el ancho que tiene la del Ferrocarril Nacional, así como á levantar las casas de estación necesarias para el tráfico de pasajeros, transporte de mercancías, etc.

En cuanto á las pendientes, curvas, ancho de la vía y peso de los rieles, la compañía habrá de sujetarse á la regulación que se observa en el ferrocarril actual, y además construirá desviaderos, tanques de agua, depósitos de leña y carbón, talleres, etc.

La compañía queda obligada á transportar gratuitamente las balijas del correo, así como los empleados que las conduzcan, y por la mitad de los precios de tarifa, á los empleados públicos que viajen en comisión oficial, á los agentes y resguardos de agricultura y policía, á los reos y escoltas que los custodien y á las tropas, armamentos y municiones, en tiempo de guerra.

En tal caso, el Gobierno podrá tomar la empresa por su cuenta, pagándole únicamente una cantidad igual á los beneficios líquidos que se hubieren obtenido el año anterior en igual período, y además reconocerá los daños y perjuicios que se causen á la empresa, según tasación de peritos.

La compañía tendrá el derecho exclusivo de fijar la tarifa del ferrocarril, que no podrá exceder de 5 centavos oro por milla, en los pasajes de primera clase, y 2½ centavos oro por milla, en los de segunda clase, y el límite de los fletes será 10 centavos en oro por tonelada por cada milla.

Si el Gobierno resolviese conceder el derecho exclusivo de construir una línea férrea entre Rivas y Granada, la Compañía del Ferrocarril Meridional tendrá el derecho de prelación

El Gobierno le concede á la Compañía el derecho de construir y explotar en el término del ferrocarril, en el lago, salvo el puerto de San José, un muelle con su correspondiente bodega, y podrá poner en el Gran Lago uno ó más vapores para efectuar el transporte de pasajeros y carga, y el número de vapores que estime conveniente en el Pacífico para el comercio de cabotaje con los puertos de la América Central.

Transcurridos treinta años, á contar de la fecha de la inauguración del ferrocarril, el Gobierno tendrá derecho á tomar posesión de la empresa y sus dependencias mediante el pago de costo de los materiales, construcción y mejoras que posteriormente se hayan hecho, ó el monto que resulte de una tasación pericial, si así lo deseare el Gobierno, efectuando el pago mediante la emisión de bonos que devenguen un 6 por ciento de interés anual, amortizables en seis años por sorteos semestrales y garantizados con la hipoteca del mismo ferrocarril, ó al contado. Si no hiciese uso de este derecho, en el término indicado, podrá, al terminar los cuarenta años, tomar posesión de la empresa en las condiciones precitadas, con un 25 por ciento de rebaja; y si no quisiese hacer uso de este derecho que se reserva, una vez transcurridos cincuenta años, podrá tomar posesión de toda la empresa á título gratuito.

Durante el término de esta concesión la expresada compañía tendrá derecho á introducir, libre de toda clase de impuestos, todos los materiales, útiles, herramientas, los aparatos y materiales telegráficos y telefónicos, así como todo lo que estime indispensable para la construcción de muelles y bodegas, y también los útiles y materiales para el consumo de sus vapores.

La compañía tendrá su oficina principal en Rivas, y si traspasase sus derechos á persona ó compañía de nacionalidad extranjera, siempre deberá tener su oficina principal en Nicaragua.

Una vez que el ferrocarril se haya inaugurado y puesto al servicio público, el Gobierno garantizará á la compañía el 7 por ciento de interés anual sobre el monto del capital invertido en toda la empresa.

PANAMÁ.

IMPORTACIONES Y EXPORTACIONES EN 1907.

Según los informes que el Sr. Izidoro Hazera, Secretario del Tesoro de la República de Panama, le ha proporcionado al Boletín Mensual, el valor de las importaciones y exportaciones de dicho país en 1907 ascendió á B17,204,983.77 y B1,960,664.92, respectiva-

mente. La siguiente tabla muestra el valor de las importaciones en 1907, por países:

	Balboas.		Balboas.
Estados Unidos	5,196,964.38	Chile	60,101.15
Inglaterra	2,028,112.01	Salvador	91,850.00
Alemania	1,061,858.75	Ecuador	30,536.31
Francia	334,906.49	Venezuela	30,101.20
España	191,908.15	Guatemala	4,450.00
Italia	189,711.75	Perú	4,187.50
Bélgica	149,765.18	Importaciones de Nueva York á la Zona del Canal sin pagar derechos	7,640,533.86
Holanda	4,348.00		
Hongkong (del Japón y de Australia)	97,213.65		
Las Antillas, incluso Curaçao	88,435.39	Total de importaciones en 1907	17,204,983.77

La siguiente tabla muestra el valor de las exportaciones de la República en 1907:

	Balboas.	
De Bocas del Toro:		
Guineos (bananos)	1,388,321.75	
Zarza	14,180.00	
Carey	8,347.50	
Caucho	8,335.00	
Cacao	2,673.00	
Cocos	1,227.00	
		1,423,084.25
De Portobelo:		
Cocos	126,046.06	
Taguas	11,014.00	
Cal y otros	5,279.00	
Leche de míspero	4,704.00	
Carey	4,690.00	
Cacao	2,950.00	
Maderas	200.00	
Caucho	97.00	
Cueros	66.00	
		155,046.06
De Panamá:		
Productos diversos		282,866.66
De Colón:		
Cocos, marfil vegetal, cueros, etc		99,667.95
Valor total de exportaciones en 1907		1,960,664.92

Al establecerse una comparación del valor de las exportaciones en 1906, que ascendió á 1,064,201, con el valor de las exportaciones en 1907, que ascendió á 1,960,664.92, resulta un aumento de 842,643.92 á favor de 1907.

PERÚ.

RENTAS ADUANERAS DURANTE EL PRIMER SEMESTRE DE 1907.

Durante el primer semestre de 1907, las aduanas marítimas de la República del Perú recaudaron una renta total de £513,791.4.07,

de cuya cantidad solamente la aduana del Callao recaudó £348,-226.2.73.

COMERCIO CON NUEVA YORK EN LOS NUEVE PRIMEROS MESES DE 1907.

Según un informe del Cónsul-General del Perú en Nueva York, el comercio entre aquella República y el puerto mencionado durante los nueve primeros meses de 1907 fué como sigue: Importaciones recibidas del Perú en Nueva York, $4,308,683; exportaciones enviadas al Perú por el puerto de Nueva York, $3,794,093. Comparando estas cifras, se verá que la diferencia está á favor del Perú, ascendiendo á $514,590.

RENTAS ADUANERAS DE MOLLENDO EN 1907.

Según cifras publicadas en "El Auxiliar del Comercio," del Callao, Perú, del 25 de enero de 1908, la aduana de Mollendo recaudó durante el año de 1907 una renta total de £176,564.3.40, en comparación con la de £160,372.6.15 percibida en 1906, ó sea un aumento de £16,192.7.25 á favor de 1907. La renta de 1904 ascendió á £135,453.0.40, y la de 1905 á £145,364.1.82.

RECONSTRUCCIÓN DEL FERROCARRIL DE MOQUEGUA.

Por suprema resolución de 3 de enero de 1908, se aceptó por el Gobierno Peruano la propuesta de Don M. Bustamante y B. para la reconstrucción del Ferrocarril de Moquegua por la suma de £23,286, que era la más baja de las cuatro que se presentaron de acuerdo con la licitación que sacó el Gobierno. El ferrocarril de que se trata es el de Ilo á Moquegua, inaugurado el 21 de febrero de 1873 con 100 kilómetros de longitud, y que fué destruído durante la guerra con Chile.

En distintas épocas se han hecho tentativas para verificar la reconstrucción de la línea, pero todas resultaron sin éxito.

De acuerdo con el contrato que se ha celebrado con el Señor Bustamante, éste deberá hacer la entrega de las partes concluídas de la línea de 20 en 20 kilómetros, y la definitiva de toda línea después de seis meses de haberse entregado el último trecho de 20 kilómetros. Se construirá un trecho adicional de 1 kilómetro para que el ferrocarril llegue hasta Moquegua. La duración del trabajo será de nueve meses después de que se haya entregado al contratista una locomotora, bajo pena de una multa de 10 por ciento sobre el valor de los trabajos dejados de hacer en ese plazo.

SALVADOR.

COMERCIO EXTRANJERO EN 1907.

La siguiente tabla muestra el valor de las exportaciones hechas al extranjero por los puertos de la República durante los nueve primeros meses de 1907:

Países.	Valor.	Países.	Valor.
	Colones.		*Colones.*
Alemania	2,339,651.57	Hawai	1,530.00
América Inglesa	42,883.00	Holanda	4,630.00
Austria-Hungría	745,224.00	Honduras	139,217.67
Bélgica	1,200.00	Italia	1,524,917.81
Brasil	10,000.00	México	78,500.00
Costa Rica	35,018.01	Nicaragua	8,107.63
Chile	43,170.40	Noruega	91,131.90
Dinamarca	302.00	Panamá	259,967.80
Ecuador	38,550.00	Perú	41,413.00
España	432,326.51	Rusia	13,770.00
Estados Unidos	4,365,723.04	Suecia	269,025.00
Francia	2,587,141.53		
Gran Bretaña	625,313.76	Total	13,703,193.10
Guatemala	4,478.47		

Los principales artículos de exportación durante el período de referencia fueron los siguientes:

Artículos.	Valor.	Artículos.	Valor.
	Colones.		*Colones.*
Café	10,382,059.42	Hule	39,296.63
Oro en barras	1,452,021.00	Plomo en bruto	11,650.00
Plata aurífera y en bruto	888,656.75	Sombreros de palma	9,031.00
Azucar	380,017.50	Caoba, cedro y moral	7,772.00
Añil	195,224.55	Artículos diversos	74,882.09
Bálsamo	130,275,00		
Cueros de res	87,217.92	Total	13,703,193.10
Tabaco	45,089.24		

El valor total en colones de todo lo exportado durante el período de referencia es de 13,703,193.10, y dicha exportación ha producido impuestos al fisco por valor de 656,813.62 colones.

EL SERVICIO DE TELÉGRAFOS Y TELÉFONOS EN 1907.

La Oficina Central de Telégrafos, Teléfonos y Cable de la República del Salvador ha publicado recientemente las siguientes cifras, relativas al servicio durante el año de 1907, en comparación con el de 1906:

Producto total en 1906, 123,793.98 pesos; en 1907, 127,243.75 pesos; aumento á favor de 1907, 3,449.77 pesos. Los gastos en 1906 ascendieron á 123,748.08 pesos, en tanto que los de 1907 no fueron más que de 111,185.27 pesos, lo cual dá una diferencia á favor de la caja de 12,562.81 pesos.

Á pesar de las economías que se introdujeron durante el último año, la marcha general del servicio no se resintió en manera alguna, y ha sido muy satisfactoria.

ESTANCAMIENTO DE LOS CARTUCHOS PARA ARMAS DE FUEGO.

El Poder Ejecutivo, de conformidad con el Decreto Legislativo de 1° de octubre de 1892 y Reglamento de 5 de diciembre del mismo año, ha dispuesto estancar los cartuchos cargados para armas de fuego, y en virtud de tal disposición ha acordado lo que sigue:

1. Desde el 1° de marzo próximo entrante los cartuchos en referencia se venderán en las Administraciones de Rentas y demás lugares autorizados por cuenta y para provecho del fisco.

2. Tres meses después de la fecha indicada quedará prohibida á los comerciantes y particulares la venta del expresado artículo, y los que en ese tiempo tuvieren existencias deberán depositarlas en las respectivas Administraciones de Rentas para su realización por cuenta de sus dueños, en los términos que expresa el artículo 3 del decreto citado, quedando los infractores sujetos á la pena decomiso.

3. El precio de venta de los expresados cartuchos será, por ahora, de 6 pesos el 100 para los de la marca Smith & Wesson, calibres 32 y 38, y 7 pesos el 100 para los de la marca Colt de los mismos calibres. Para las demás marcas ó calibres se fijaran otros precios en su oportunidad.

URUGUAY.

RENTA DE ADUANA EN 1907.

En el año común de 1907 la renta de Aduana de la República del Uruguay ascendió á $13,195,210, en comparación con $12,863,597 en los doce meses anteriores, ó sea un aumento de $331,612. Aunque este aumento no es tan grande como el que se obtuvo en 1905 y 1906, sin embargo, este total representa un progreso en el período de catorce años transcurridos desde 1894.

Los ingresos correspondientes á los meses de enero, febrero, mayo, junio, julio, agosto y diciembre de 1907, muestran un aumento respecto de los meses correspondientes de 1906, en tanto que los otros cinco meses del año muestran una disminución en la renta de Aduana.

Debe notarse que este aumento en dicha renta se atribuye al hecho de que los derechos de importación ascendieron á $11,852,041, en tanto que en el año anterior ascendieron á $11,395,656. Por otra parte, los derechos de exportación que antes habían llegado á $1,467,941 bajaron á $1,343,168. Así pues, se ve que aunque el país importa más mercancías extranjeras que antes, este hecho no ha traído consigo un aumento en la venta de sus productos en el extranjero.

La relación de la renta de Aduana que antecede no incluye los derechos adicionales extraordinarios destinados á los fondos para las obras de puerto, que probablemente ascienden á $1,200,000.

ESTADO FINANCIERO EN 1906–7.

El año financiero de 1906–7, que terminó el 30 de junio de 1907, muestra que en el Tesoro de la República del Uruguay había un sobrante de $2,149,944, en comparación con $453,110, en el año anterior, mostrando así el estado de prosperidad del país.

El total de ingresos en los doce meses de referencia ascendió á $26,159,411, ó sea un aumento de cerca de $6,000,000 respecto del año económico de 1906.

Del sobrante que resultó en el Tesoro, $1,000,000 se destinó á aumentar el capital del Banco de la República, con el fin especial de que pudiese aumentar su emisión de billetes, y la mayor parte del resto de dicho sobrante se empleó en varias obras y servicios públicos bajo la denominación de "gastos extraordinarios."

Los intereses de la deuda del país se han pagado con puntualidad, y los desembolsos domésticos se hicieron con la más estricta puntualidad.

LA PROYECTADA REVISIÓN DEL CÓDIGO DE MINAS.

De acuerdo con un decreto que expidió recientemente el Ministerio de Industrias, se ha nombrado una comisión encargada de revisar el Código de Minas del Uruguay. La tarea especial de la comisión consistirá en proponer las reformas que juzgue necesarias en cuanto á la manera de adquirir propiedad en las minas, la regulación de las exploraciones, las condiciones á las cuales deben sujetarse las concesiones mineras, los derechos de los descubridores, las condiciones y los efectos del registro, las obligaciones y derechos del que registra una mina y del que la denuncia, el abandono y pérdida de las minas, y todas las medidas que sean necesarias para la reglamentación de las propiedades y concesiones mineras.

Por más que se cree que la industria minera del país es susceptible de un gran desarrollo, las minas jamás se han explotado en gran escala, y se cree que muchos de los obstáculos con que en la actualidad se tropiezan para el debido desarrollo de dicha industria, pueden hacerse desaparecer estableciendo un código legal eficaz y amplio.

BALANCE DEL BANCO DE LA REPÚBLICA EN 1907.

El balance del Banco de la República establecido en Montevideo, correspondiente á 1907, muestra que las ganancias realizadas en dicho año ascendieron á $728,242, contra $448,678 en 1906. Como quiera que el Gobierno es el único accionista, percibe un 80 por ciento de las ganancias, que equivale á $592,594.

El interés que se paga sobre el empréstito levantado para el capital del banco exige un pago anual de $470,000.

SESIÓN INAUGURAL DEL CONGRESO INTERNACIONAL DE ESTUDIANTES AMERICANOS.

El día 26 de enero de 1908 se celebró en la ciudad de Montevideo la sesión inaugural del Congreso Internacional de Estudiantes Ameri-

canos. Los países representados en esta sesión inaugural fueron los siguientes: República Argentina, Boliva, Brasil, Chile, Guatemala, Paraguay, Perú, y Uruguay. El número de delegados excedía de 100. El Doctor MIRANDA, del Uruguay, fué elegido presidente del Congreso, y presidentes honorarios el Presidente de la República del Uruguay, el Presidente de los Estados Unidos y los Señores Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores y Ministro de Instrucción Pública del Uruguay.

VENEZUELA.

ABOLICIÓN DEL MONOPOLIO DE FÓSFOROS É IMPUESTOS QUE PAGARÁN.

La "Gaceta Oficial" de Venezuela, de fecha 9 de enero de 1908, publica un decreto del Presidente CASTRO del mismo día, que declara insubsistentes los contratos de 29 de agosto de 1904 y 9 de agosto de 1905, celebrados con la Fábrica Nacional de Fósforos, y en virtud de los cuales tenía esta el monopolio de fósforos. En lo adelante quedará libre en todo el territorio de la República la fabricación de fósforos y falcultativa la importación de este artículo por los puertos habilitados para el comerico exterior, así como también la de las materias primas para fabricarlos.

Otro decreto, fechado el 10 de enero y publicado el mismo día, establece un timbre especial para la recaudación de la renta de fósforos. El primer tipo será del valor de 1 céntimo de bolívar, y se pagará por cada caja de fósforos de madera que contenga 40 fósforos. El segundo tipo será de valor de 2 céntimos de bolívar, y será pagadero por las cajas de fósforos de cerilla que contengan 60 fósforos. El tercer tipo será por valor de 4 céntimos de bolívar, y se inutilizará en las cajas de fósforos de cerilla que contengan 120 fósforos. Los fósforos destinados á la exportación quedan exonerados de todo impuesto.

Este último decreto dispone también que los fósforos que se importen quedan aforados en la Cuarta Clase Arancelaria.

MODIFICACÍONES ARANCELARIAS.

El 14 de noviembre de 1907 el Presidente CASTRO decretó que, además, de los derechos de importación ordinarios, deben cobrarse recargos en las aduanas de Venezuela de la manera siguiente:

El maíz en grano, el arroz en grano, el trigo en grano, las caraotas, los frijoles, las lentejas, las habichuelas, la manteca de puerco, la mantequilla y la cerveza, 10 por ciento.

Las botellas comunes de vidrio ordinario negro ó claro, propias para envasar licores, leche esterilizada y aguas gaseosas; los vidrios planos ó cristales sin azogar, blancos ó de color; las papas, los fustes ó armaduras para monturas; el algodón en rama, los sombreros de paja sin ningún adorno, y el papel de estraza y de madera, 25 por ciento

NUCLEO ALLEMÃO DE SAN BERNARDINO, NO LAGO IPACARAY, PARAGUAY.

The German colony of San Bernardino, on Lake Ipacaray, Paraguay.

Boletim Mensal

DA

Secretaria Internacional das Republicas Americanas,

União Internacional das Republicas Americanas.

Vol. XXVI. MARÇO de 1908. No. 3.

(Muitos dos assumptos commentados na secção editorial portugueza do Boletim, são publicados sómente em inglez ou hespanhol.)

No momento em que este numero do Boletim sahir á luz, as firmas que foram convidadas para submetter orçamentos para a construcção do novo edificio da Secretaria Internacional já deverão ter apresentado suas propostas. Dentro de pouco tempo o contracto deverá ser concluido com a firma que fôr escolhida, e os trabalhos de construcção deverão ser iniciados, no mais tardar, pelos meiados de abril. Esforços especiaes serão feitos para apressar os trabalhos de modo que o edificio esteja virtualmente concluido durante a incumbencia do actual Secretario de Estado e presidente do Conselho Director, que termina em março de 1909. Á vista do interesse especial que o Secretario Root tem manifestado em estabelecer mais estreitas relações entre os Estados Unidos e a America Latina, na reorganização da Secretaria e em chamar a attenção do Senhor Carnegie para a grande utilidade da Secretaria, conseguindo assim obter o generoso donativo de $750,000 para o novo edificio, é opinião unanime do Conselho Director que se devem fazer todos os esforços para que seja inaugurado o edificio durante sua administração. As especificações e planos definitivos, approvados pelo Secretario de Estado e o Director da Secretaria, mostram muitos melhoramentos sobre os desenhos primitivos, e não ha duvida de que este edificio será um dos mais lindos em Washington. Será um edificio artistico e util, e ao mesmo tempo adaptado ao fim a que se destina. É de esperar que as photographias dos desenhos revisados sejam publicados no numero do Boletim de abril. A demora na conclusão dos planos pelos architectos foi devida á revisão dos desenhos primitivos e ao estudo cuidadoso dos detalhes.

MORTE DO SENHOR JOSÉ ALGARA.

Com a morte do Exmo. Senhor José Algara, Sub-secretario do Mexico, que falleceu a 10 de março corrente, na capital da vizinha Republica, perdeu esta um dos seus mais leaes servidores e um dos seus filhos mais preclaros, e a Secretaria Internacional um bom e leal amigo.

O Senhor Algara occupou postos da maior importancia e responsabilidade, taes como a Cathedra de Direito Internacional Privado e de Legislação Comparada na Escola de Jurisprudencia do Mexico, tendo sido membro da Junta Directora do Collegio de Advogados, Secretario de Estado Interino, e occupado outros de caracter administrativo, mostrando sempre sua idoneidade no desempenho de seus deveres.

A NOVA COMMISSÃO PAN-AMERICANA.

A Terceira Conferencia Pan-Americana que se reuniu no Rio de Janeiro, recommendou a cada um dos Governos nella representados que nomeasse uma Commissão, dependente do Ministerio das Relações Exteriores, encarregada de promover a approvação das resoluções e convenções adoptadas pela Conferencia, e tambem de cooperar com a Secretaria Internacional na obra do desenvolvimento das relações commerciaes e de amizade entre os paizes Americanos. O Secretario Root nomeou ultimamente a Commissão dos Estados Unidos, que é composta dos seguintes membros:

Senhor Andrew Carnegie;

Honorable William I. Buchanan, chefe da delegação norte-americana na Terceira Conferencia Pan-Americana;

Stephen B. Elkins, Senador federal pelo Estado de West Virginia;

Charles B. Landis, Deputado pelo Estado de Indiana;

James L. Slayden, Deputado pelo Estado de Texas;

General A. E. Bates, do Exercito dos Estados Unidos, aposentado;

Professor L. S. Rowe, da Universidade de Pennsylvania e delegado dos Estados Unidos á Terceira Conferencia Pan-Americana;

Honorable Robert Bacon, Sub-Secretario de Estado dos Estados Unidos;

Benjamin Ide Wheeler, presidente da Universidade de California;

E. J. James, presidente da Universidade de Illinois;

Professor Paul S. Reinsch, da Universidade de Wisconsin;

William E. Curtis, o conhecido jornalista; e

John Barrett, Director da Secretaria Internacional das Republicas Americanas;

Ao nomear essa Commissão o Secretario de Estado disse que poderiam prestar relevantes serviços, cooperando com os diversos Estados Americanos no sentido de desenvolver o mutuo conhecimento e a boa vontade de cada um.

RATIFICAÇÃO DOS TRATADOS FIRMADOS PELA CONFERENCIA DA AMERICA CENTRAL.

É para nós motivo de grande satisfacção annunciar a ratificação pelos Governos da America Central, dos tratados e convenções assignados pela Conferencia de Paz da America Central, reunida ha pouco em Washington. Esta attitude dos Governos da America Central não pode deixar de ser favoravelmente commentado em todo o mundo e de despertar a attenção para as possibilidades de desenvolvimento e progresso nestes paizes. Como se tem dito neste BOLETIM repetidas vezes, a America Central é uma das partes mais ricas do hemispherio occidental, e sómente aguarda capitaes, maior numero de vias ferreas e linhas de navegação fluvial, e um governo estavel para que consiga um estado de progresso e prosperidade que ha de surprehender o mundo.

O HONORABLE WILLIAM J. BRYAN E A AMERICA LATINA.

Em 15 de fevereiro ultimo, o Director da Secretaria Internacional das Republicas Americanas, em resposta ao convite que lhe fez o Club Commercial de Lincoln, Estado de Nebraska, pronunciou um discurso por occasião do seu banquete annual em que tratou das relações commerciaes dos Estados Unidos com a America Latina. A vista de ser o Honorable WILLIAM J. BRYAN, que é um dos homens mais eminentes na vida publica dos Estados Unidos, um cidadão de Lincoln, o Director trocou cartas com elle, sobre as relações entre os Estados Unidos e a America Latina, as quaes tem um interesse mais que local e por isso reproduzimol-as neste numero do BOLETIM.

"SECRETARIA INTERNACIONAL DAS
"REPUBLICAS AMERICANAS,
" Washington, D. C., 20 de janeiro de 1908.

"Honorable WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN,
Agencia da Imprensa Nacional, Edificio de Munsey,
Washington, D. C.

"MEU CARO SENHOR BRYAN: O Club Commercial de Lincoln, Nebraska, fez-me um convite para pronunciar um discurso, por occasião do seu primeiro banquete annual, sobre as relações commer-

ciaes dos Estados Unidos com as Republicas que ficam ao sul de nós. Como sois um dos mais illustres cidadãos daquella cidade e Estado, e como a vossa opinião é muito acatada alli, ser-me-hia muito agradavel conhecer vossa opinião acerca do movimento em prol do desenvolvimento das relações commerciaes e de amizade entre os Estados Unidos e as Republicas suas irmãs, de modo que nessa reunião possa transmittir a vossos concidadãos vossas ideas a respeito.

"Incidentemente desejo accrescentar que quando estiverdes em Washington, terei muito prazer em apresentar-vos aos embaixadores e ministros das Republicas Americanas que formam o nosso Conselho Director, os quaes são tidos entre as figuras mais illustres da America Latina.

"Subscrevo-me respeitosamente de V. S.,

"JOHN BARRETT."

"WASHINGTON, D. C., *28 de janeiro de 1908.*

"Honorable JOHN BARRETT,

"*Secretaria Internacional das Republicas Americanas,*

Washington, D. C.

"MEU CARO SENHOR BARRETT: A vossa estimada carta acaba de chegar ás minhas mãos. Em resposta a vossa consulta, cabe-me dizer-vos que não só me interesso, mas tenho especial interesse pelo desenvolvimento do nosso commercio com a America do Sul. Estando convencido como estou que a idea do governo pelo povo está destinado a expandir-se pelo mundo, acompanho de perto o desenvolvimento das Republicas que ficam ao sul de nós. Fiz duas visitas ao Mexico e assisti á ceremonia da inauguração do primeiro Presidente da Republica de Cuba. Tencionava visitar a America do Sul este inverno, mas, muito a contragosto, fui obrigado a adial-a.

"Si lerdes os artigos que tenho escripto sobre o Mexico e Cuba, vereis que a minha attitude é distinctamente sympathica. Concordo com o modo de ver do Presidente CLEVELAND a respeito da Venezuela, e tenho em editoriaes recommendado o estabelecimento de linhas de navegação nas costas oriental e occidental dos dous paizes com o fim de promover relações commerciaes entre os Estados Unidos e a America do Sul. Em vez de conceder subvenções ás linhas particulares, lembrei a conveniencia de que o nosso Governo construisse um numero de navios que podessem ser transformados em cruzadores em tempo de guerra, arrendando-os em tempo de paz sob as condições que garantam o estabelecimento do trafego de cargas e passageiros entre nosso paiz e todos os paizes da America do Sul.

"Terei muito prazer em conhecer os representantes diplomaticos das Republicas do Sul que constituem o Conselho Director.

"Agradecendo-vos por terdes chamado minha attenção para este assumpto, subscrevo-me, com todo o respeito e consideração.

"W. J. BRYAN."

HOMENAGEM PRESTADA PELA AMERICA LATINA AO SECRETARIO ROOT.

O Conselho Director da Secretaria Internacional, na sua ultima reunião, aproveitou-se da ausencia do Secretario ROOT, seu presidente, para prestar-lhe um tributo honrosissimo. Quando no expediente se chegou á discussão sobre o novo edificio, foi apresentada a seguinte moção que foi unanimemente approvada e commentada em adequados discursos.

Resolveu-se que quando o novo edificio da Secretaria Internacional das Republicas Americanas estiver em via de construcção, se colloque nelle um testemunho adequado em honra do Exmo. Sr. Seretario ROOT, como signal do preito e publico reconhecimento pelos relevantissimos serviços por elle prestados e pela sua incansavel energia em prol da União Pan-Americana.

O EMBAIXADOR NABUCO CONVIDADO A REALIZAR UMA CONFERENCIA SOBRE CAMÕES.

O Sr. JOAQUIM NABUCO, o eminente e erudito Embaixador do Brazil, foi convidado pela Universidade de Yale para realizar uma conferencia perante a Faculdade e estudantes de Yale sobre Camões, o grande poeta portuguez. É para nós motivo de regosijo notar o crescente interesse que se manifesta pelos vultos litterarios do mundo latino, cujos nomes são familiares em toda a parte na America Latina, mas pouco conhecidos nos Estados Unidos, e é-nos especialmente agradavel que o Embaixador NABUCO tenha sido escolhido para discorrer sobre Camões perante uma tal assemblea. O Senhor NABUCO não só figura entre os primeiros diplomatas da America, mas é conhecido em todo o mundo como um homem de grande illustração. Esta conferencia não só será repleta de conhecimentos uteis, mas será um acontecimento de grande importancia no mundo litterario.

EXPRESSÃO DE APPROVAÇÃO MANIFESTADA PELO SENHOR BRIDGMAN.

São muito apreciadas por aquelles que labutam sinceramente por uma grande causa as bondosas palavras de approvação manifestadas por pessoas competentes. Parece que entre as pessoas presentes á conferencia que o Director da Secretaria realizou perante a "American Geographical Society" de New York, em 25 de fevereiro, sobre a America Latina e a viagem que fez atravez dos Andes, esteve o Sr. H. L. BRIDGMAN, o eminente explorador e redactor. No "Brooklyn Standard Union" de domingo, 1° de março, saiu publicado um editorial sob o titulo "America Latina, de Hoje e de Amanhã," escripto pelo Senhor BRIDGMAN, que contem o seguinte trecho:

A "American Geographical Society," talvez sem sabel-o, prestou um relevante serviço publico apresentando o Senhor BARRETT a uma assemblea de New York, e nenhum dos que o ouviram duvidam de que o que elle disse deve ser dito sob muitas formas e em muitos lugares; que, talvez, a hora actual, com o prestigio e a bôa vontade que tem conseguido conquistar os nossos couraçados em sua marcha triumphal ao redor do continente, é o momento psychologico, e si é difficil obter auditorios e ha falta de tribunas, pode-se, no emtanto, recorrer á imprensa para discutir a materia. Foram tambem muito apreciadas as partes do discurso do Senhor BARRETT em que prestou honroso preito ao Secretario ROOT, que julga ser o mais habil dos secretarios que têm occupado este alto cargo na historia do nosso paiz, e encareceu os beneficos e duradouros resultados de sua visita á America do Sul, de que a excursão que o Senhor BARRETT fez atravez das Cordilheiras foi apenas um incidente."

CURSOS SOBRE A AMERICA LATINA NA UNIVERSIDADE DE YALE.

Neste numero do BOLETIM publicamos um resumo do que a Universidade de Yale está fazendo para promover o estudo de assumptos relativos á America Latina. Si ha outras universidades que pretendem estabelecer cursos semelhantes, teremos prazer em fazer menção delles no BOLETIM, de modo que os estudantes tanto da America do Norte como da America do Sul, possam conhecer as facilidades que existem no paiz para o ensino neste sentido. Não só a Universidade de Yale, mas as de Columbia e Cornell, a Universidade de Wisconsin, a Universidade de Illinois, a Universidade de California, e a Universidade de Washington, estão organizando cursos especiaes para o crescente numero de moços que desejam estudar o hespanhol e familiarizar-se com a historia e o desenvolvimento das Republicas nossas irmãs. É de esperar que todas as instituições de educação superior neste paiz sigam o exemplo das ditas universidades e collegios, e a Secretaria terá prazer em prestar-lhes, no que estiver ao seu alcance, seu auxilio.

CLUBS COSMOPOLITANOS E COLLEGIOS.

Existe uma organização, pouco conhecida na America, que está prestando valiosos serviços nas instituições de ensino superior dos Estados Unidos no sentido de desenvolver relações de amizade mais estreitas entre estudantes estrangeiros e norte-americanos que frequentam as mesmas instituições. Denomina-se, apropriadamente, o

"Club Cosmopolitano" e conta entre os seus membros não só estudantes estrangeiros que frequentam instituições de ensino nos Estados Unidos, mas tambem certo numero de moços deste paiz que se interessam por paizes estrangeiros. Este club, em todas as instituições em que tem sido organizado, tem dado beneficos resultados, mas ainda está em sua infancia. Todas as influencias com que se rodêam moços estrangeiros vindos para os Estados Unidos para seu melhor conhecimento mutuo, não podem deixar de ser de grande beneficio tanto aos estudantes estrangeiros como aos nacionaes. Talvez a ignorancia que se nota entre estudantes dos Estados Unidos relativamente á America Latina, é maior do que a que se observa entre estudantes latino-americanos relativamente aos Estados Unidos, e por isso é evidente o beneficio que ha de resultar deste Club. A Secretaria Internacional deseja-lhe grande prosperidade e um crescente numero de membros. Neste numero publicamos um artigo descriptivo de sua organização e fins, que foi fornecido a esta Secretaria por um dos membros de sua directoria.

CONGRESSO SCIENTIFICO PAN-AMERICANO.

Em 17 de fevereiro, o Conselho Director da Secretaria Internacional realizou uma sessão importante para discutir o programma do Congresso Scientifico Pan-Americano que se reunirá em Santiago, Chile, em dezembro do corrente anno. Além dos membros do Conselho Director, estiveram presentes o Exmo. Sr. Robert Bacon, Sub-Secretario de Estado dos Estados Unidos que presidiu á sessão, e o Professor L. S. Rowe, da Universidade de Pennsylvania, que foi nomeado membro da commissão dos Estados Unidos pela commissão organizadora do Congresso no Chile.

AMERICA LATINA EM PHILADELPHIA.

Em 20 de março realizou-se em Philadelphia uma reunião interessante sob os auspicios da Academia Americana da Sciencia Politica e Social, que foi presidida pelo Director da Secretaria Internacional e a que assistiram grande numero de representantes diplomaticos da America Latina. A nota principal da occasião foi o substancioso discurso proferido pelo Professor L. S. Rowe, que está fazendo grandes esforços para desenvolver relações mais estreitas, sobretudo intellectuaes e educadores, entre os Estados Unidos e as Republicas, suas irmãs.

UM NOVO MAGAZINE PARA A AMERICA LATINA.

Os proprietarios de "The World To-Day," que é um dos principaes magazines do paiz, merecem ser congratulados pelo plano que tem de publicar uma edição em hespanhol sob o titulo "El Mundo de Hoy," e espera-se que ha de ter larga circulação nos paizes latino-americanos. Affirma-se que os redactores estão tomando as precauções necessarias para que este emprehendimento não fracasse, como fracassaram as muitas tentativas semelhantes que não foram tomadas em devida consideração. A grande difficuldade com que se luctou no passado foi, ou a companhia editora do magazine não tinha a pratica e capital necessarios, ou não comprehendeu o temperamento do povo latino-americano, ou finalmente não acertou com a especial feição de uma publicação desse genero. Si os promotores desta idea conseguirem por em execução o programma annunciado em sua circular, verão sem duvida seus esforços coroados de exito.

ARTIGO SOBRE PRESIDENTE DÍAZ ESCRIPTO POR SENHOR CREELMAN.

Entre os numerosos artigos que se têm escripto acerca do General Díaz, Presidente do Mexico, destaca-se especialmente o de James Creelman, publicado no "Pearson's Magazine" de março. É um quadro vivo do primeiro chefe da Republica do Mexico, permittindo ao leitor comprehender facilmente o homen e apreciar o que tem feito em beneficio do seu paiz.

O Senhor Creelman tem tido uma experiencia pouco commum em entrevistar os grandes vultos do mundo, e em descrever seus traços caracteristicos de modo que todos sintam parecer conhecel-os pessoalmente, que o que escreve acerca do General Díaz tem um valor especial. Sua estimativa da obra de Díaz como um estadista constructor e do lugar que ha de occupar na historia, sua analyse detalhada de sua personalidade, tudo impressiona o leitor como uma historia verdadeira e muito bem escripta.

BANQUETE DE DESPEDIDA AO SENHOR PULIDO.

Antes de volver ao seu paiz, o Senhor Augusto F. Pulido, por muitos annos ao serviço diplomatico de Venezuela em Washington, foi objecto de uma imponente manifestação por parte dos membros do "Metropolitan Club," desta cidade, que representa o mais selecto nos circulos sociaes, diplomaticos, bancarios e politicos dos Estados Unidos.

No banquete de despedida que o Club offereceu ao Senhor Pulido, foi-lhe apresentado um lindo copo de prata, com uma dedicatoria apropriada e fac-similes das firmas dos oitenta membros do Club que contribuiram para a manifestação de apreço pelo Senhor Pulido.

VIAGEM AO REDOR DA AMERICA DO SUL.

Uma prova do grande interesse despertado entre os *touristes* pela viagem á e ao redor da America do Sul, é uma circular que acabam de publicar os Srs. Busk e Jevons, agentes geraes da linha de vapores Lamport & Holt, intitulada: "Excursão especial ao redor da America do Sul: New York a Bahia, Bahia ao Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro a Santos, Santos a Montevidéo, Montevidéo a Buenos Aires, Buenos Aires por via ferrea atravez dos Andes até Valparaiso, Valparaiso por mar a Panamá, atravez do Isthmo a Colon, daqui a New York, e vice-versa."

Annuncia-se que esta longa viagem pode ser feita pela somma relativamente pequena de $475, incluindo refeições e accommodações nos vapores e passagens de 1ª classe nas vias ferreas. No ultimo numero do Boletim foram publicadas photographias de um dos novos vapores desta linha, que manda vapores uma vez por mez para Montevidéo e Buenos Aires via Rio de Janeiro. A viagem para o Rio é feita em dezoito dias, e para Buenos Aires em vinte e seis dias.

ITINERARIOS COMMERCIAES NA AMERICA DO SUL.

Um numero recente da "Dunn's Review" contem um interessante artigo sobre os itinerarios na America do Sul por vias ferreas e fluviaes, preparado pelo Professor J. Russell Smith. A vista do grande numero de cartas que chegam a esta Secretaria pedindo informações a este respeito, publicamos extractos deste artigo nesta edição do Boletim.

PROGRESSO ARGENTINO EM 1907.

Informações officiaes recebidas da Republica Argentina demonstram que as condições em toda a parte da Republica continuam a ser tão satisfactorias em 1907 como em 1906. As cifras do commercio exterior, comparadas com as do anno anterior, mostram um augmento de cerca de $20,000,000, e um balanço commercial a favor da Republica de mais de $10,000,000. Entraram no paiz durante o anno 329,122 immigrantes. A situação dos bancos mostra um melhoramento sobre a de 30 de junho de 1907. O balancete do Banco da Republica Argentina evidencia a situação bastante satisfactoria deste instituto de credito. O banco tem actualmente 104 caixas filiaes na Republica e espera estabelecer ainda outras no anno corrente. Na capital, foram construidas durante o anno obras no valor de $79,033,833 papel, ou $20,000,000 mais do que no anno anterior, ao passo que as rendas arrecadadas pela alfandega de Buenos Aires augmentaram de $943,882 ouro. Segundo informações recebidas,

as colheitas de trigo e linho são as maiores na historia do paiz, contrabalançando a diminuição verificada na producção do milho, e consta que as companhias de vias ferreas têm tomado as medidas necessarias para o seu facil transporte.

COMMERCIO E INDUSTRIAS DA BOLIVIA.

A attenção dos leitores é chamada para a discrepancia que se nota nas cifras officiaes da Bolivia e as dos Estados Unidos sobre o commercio entre os dous paizes, as quaes são publicadas neste numero do BOLETIM. No quadro da exportação dos Estados Unidos para o anno de 1907, a Bolivia figura unicamente com $1,502,622, ao passo que dos relatorios consulares se vê que a exportação dos portos de New York e San Francisco com destino á Bolivia foi no valor de $2,852,460. Essa differença explica-se pelo facto de que grande quantidade das mercadorias com destino á Bolivia são importadas pelos portos do Chile, Peru e Brazil.

Grande parte das informações sobre esta Republica que vem publicadas neste numero do BOLETIM, foram extrahidas do importante relatorio publicado pelo Departamento de Colonização e Agricultura em agosto de 1907.

PROTECÇÃO ADUANEIRA PARA AS PROPRIEDADES INDUSTRIAES NO BRAZIL.

Com relação á projectada reforma das tarifas aduaneiras do Brazil, foi preparada uma lista official das industrias existentes na Republica para servir de base á organização de uma tabella de taxas proteccionistas. O total do capital empregado em industrias manufactureiras no paiz é calculado em $163,349,000, representando os interesses de 2,397 estabelecimentos. A industria de tecidos vai-se desenvolvendo rapidamente, o que explica a diminuição verificada nas importações de tecidos, e a nova fibra de Perini está sendo explorada commercialmente pelo Governo com o intuito de tornal-a rival do algodão no mercado do Brazil.

A cultura e exportação do café sob o novo regimen de valorização mostram um progressivo augmento nos valores, verificando-se um augmento de $100,000,000 no valor, e de 1,000,000 saccas na quantidade do café exportado em 1907, comparado com o do anno anterior. O Brazil concorreu com 727,187,465 libras, ou seja 77.34 por cento, para o consumo total dos Estados Unidos, que foi calculado em 940,-247,312 libras.

DESENVOLVIMENTO DAS VIAS DE COMMUNICAÇÃO NO CHILE.

Que o Governo do Chile se interessa muito pelo importante ramo das viações ferreas evidencia-se pelo decreto promulgado em janeiro de 1908, que autoriza a construcção da Estrada de Ferro Longitudinal pelo custo de $37,000,000, e abre um credito de $15,500,000 para a construcção de linhas federaes durante o anno. Em 1 de julho de 1907, a Directoria das Obras Publicas tinha iniciado os estudos de 707,233 kilometros de vias ferreas federaes, do total de 927,639 kilometros em projecto. A marinha mercante do Chile desenvolve-se na mesma proporção, e hoje, dos paizes da America do Sul unicamente o Brazil excede a tonelagem da sua marinha mercante, que consta de 156,316 toneladas.

TRATADO IMPORTANTE ENTRE COLOMBIA E EQUADOR.

O tratado de amizade, commercio e navegação concluido entre os Governos da Colombia e o Equador, e cujas ratificações foram trocadas em 24 de outubro de 1907, marca uma epoca no desenvolvimento destas duas Republicas. A colonia colombiana no Equador conta mais de 40,000 habitantes e o referido tratado cobre todas as questões de direito internacional que possam surgir entre nações tão estreitamente ligadas por laços naturaes.

RELATORIO DA COSTA RICA SOBRE A CONFERENCIA DE PAZ DA AMERICA CENTRAL.

Na ratificação pelo Governo da Costa Rica dos diversos tratados e convenções firmados na Conferencia de Paz da America Central que se reuniu em Washington, no ultimo mez de 1907, é de especial interesse o relatorio apresentado ao Congresso Nacional pelo Sr. Luis Anderson, Secretario das Relações Exteriores da Republica e presidente da Conferencia. Reproduzimos o relatorio por ser um documento de grande importancia.

RENDAS E DESENVOLVIMENTO DE CUBA.

A arrecadação das rendas de Cuba no anno de 1907, foi na importancia total de $29,118,827, sendo a maior parte desta somma arrecadada pela alfandega de Havana. Estes dados são de interesse com relação ao plano ultimamente promulgado para o calçamento das ruas e o novo serviço de esgottos da cidade de Havana, os quaes serão cobertos com o producto da taxa de 10 por cento das rendas aduaneiras daquelle porto. O prazo para a terminação das obras foi fixado

em seis annos, e calcula-se que o producto da taxa de 10 por cento neste periodo attingirá a $12,000,000. Entraram em vigor em 28 de fevereiro de 1908, diversas modificações da tarifa aduaneira relativas a machinas e apparelhos destinados a engenhos de assucar e industrias analogas.

COMMERCIO E CONDIÇÕES INTERNAS DO EQUADOR.

Houve um augmento no valor dos productos nacionaes exportados pela Republica do Equador no anno de 1907, taes como cacáo, borracha, chapéos, etc. A Estrada de Ferro de Puerto Bolivar a Machala foi prolongada durante o anno até aos districtos de cacáo e tem sido de grande beneficio no transporte deste producto para o porto. A Companhia da Estrada de Ferro de Guayaquil a Quito, cuja controversia com o Governo foi submettida á decisão de uma commissão arbitral, tem sido o objecto de um decreto executivo, determinando que os *coupons* venciveis a 2 de janeiro e 2 de julho de 1908, e a 2 de janeiro de 1909, serão pagos com o producto de uma nova emissão de titulos, garantida pela renda proveniente da venda do sal. Este producto foi vantajosamente exportado durante o anno para os portos da Colombia.

RELATORIO SOBRE AS CONDIÇÕES EM GUATEMALA.

O relatorio sobre as condições em Guatemala, apresentado pelo Encarregado de Negocios da França em Guatemala, ainda que se refira ao anno de 1906, contem os dados mais recentes disponiveis sobre as relações commerciaes entre aquella Republica e os diversos paizes do mundo, e por isso o transcrevemos para as nossas paginas quasi em sua integra. Deste relatorio se vê que, ainda que os Estados Unidos forneçam a metade da importação de Guatemala, a Allemanha leva-lhes vantagem na exportação. Nota-se uma ligeira discordancia entre as cifras deste relatorio e as publicadas pela Repartição de Estatistica dos Estados Unidos, accusando estas ultimas um augmento nas importações em 1907, de procedencia de Guatemala.

CONDIÇÕES FINANCEIRAS DO MEXICO.

Ao terminar o anno de 1907, o estado dos 34 bancos autorizados a funccionar na Republica foi muito satisfactorio, e parece que não foram sensivelmente affectados pela crise que tem prevalecido na Republica durante o anno. O relatorio sobre as finanças do Mexico apresentado ultimamente pelo Ministro LIMANTOUR, tem attrahido a

attenção geral, e a fusão das estradas de ferro que o Governo está negociando com quatro bancos internacionaes de New York e duas firmas bancarias de Londres, ha de ter importante influencia sobre a situação. As rendas aduaneiras arrecadadas nos primeiros sete mezes de 1907–8, que é o ultimo periodo de que ha estatistica, apresentam um augmento sobre as de igual periodo do anno anterior, ao passo que o valor do commercio nos primeiros cinco mezes do corrente exercicio, em comparação com o de igual periodo do exercicio anterior, mostra um augmento de mais de $14,000,000. Os relatorios consulares sobre diversas industrias do paiz tambem attestam uma situação muito lisonjeira. As cifras do commercio exterior no primeiro semestre de 1907–8, mostram um augmento de $4,800,000 na exportação, e de $7,600,000 na importação, comparadas com as de igual periodo do anno anterior.

CONCESSÕES E MELHORAMENTOS EM NICARAGUA.

O Presidente de Nicaragua expediu um decreto augmentando a emissão de titulos de exportação para o pagamento dos *coupons* da divida externa, de $75,000, somma em que a emissão foi primeiramente fixada, a $400,000. O serviço da divida publica foi pontualmente pago durante o anno de 1907, e as concessões feitas para a exploração de productos nacionaes são prova de que as condições do paiz continuarão a ser prosperas no presente anno. Um contracto foi concluido para a construcção de uma estrada de ferro de San Juan del Sur no Pacifico a um ponto no interior do paiz. A barra do Rio Grande vai ser dragada e o serviço de navegação melhorado, ao passo que foram feitas concessões para a exploração de mineraes e guttapercha, do que resultará um augmento na arrecadação federal.

COMMERCIO EXTERIOR DO PANAMÁ EM 1907.

Segundo o relatorio do Departamento da Fazenda, o commercio exterior da Republica do Panamá no anno de 1907, attingiu ao valor de $19,165,648.69. Para a importação, que foi no valor total de $17,204,983.77, os Estados Unidos concorreram com $5,196,964.38, exclusive $7,640,533.86, que representam o valor dos generos importados pela zona do Canal durante o anno, os quaes entraram livres de direitos. Segundo cifras norte-americanas, foram exportados com destino ao Panamá durante o anno, generos no valor de $18,665,323. A exportação do Panamá foi no valor de $1,960,664.92, ou mais $842,643.92, do que no anno anterior. Os Estados Unidos é quasi o unico paiz que importa productos de Panamá.

ESTIMULO ÁS RELAÇÕES INTERNACIONAES POR MEIO DA EDUCAÇÃO.

Que a propaganda iniciada pelo Sr. KELLOGG, Consul dos Estados Unidos em Colon, para divulgar entre os habitantes do Panamá conhecimentos mais exactos sobre o paiz que representa, está dando bons resultados, prova-o a photographia dos vencedores dos premios que offereceu para o melhor ensaio escripto sobre os Estados Unidos, a qual vem impressa neste numero do BOLETIM. O Consul KELLOGG affirma que este concurso tem dado um grande impulso ao estudo do inglez e das instituições dos Estados Unidos, e julga que estes conhecimentos são o unico meio seguro de estabelecer relações sociaes e commerciaes entre os paizes interessados.

AUGMENTO DAS RENDAS ADUANEIRAS E DESENVOLVIMENTO DAS VIAS FERREAS NO PERU.

O rendimento da Alfandega de Mollendo nos ultimos quarto annos mostra um augmento progressivo, tendo subido de $675,000 em 1904, a cerca de $900,000 em 1907, ao passo que o rendimento da Alfandega de Callão no primeiro semestre do anno foi de mais de $1,500,000, sendo o total para o anno calculado em $3,000,000. O Sr. CHARLES M. PEPPER, em seu importante relatorio sobre as estradas de ferro em construcção na Republica, diz que o Thesouro do Peru tem exercido a maior prudencia no dispendio de seus fundos, de modo que o Governo tem amplos recursos para satisfazer todas as obrigações em que tem incorrido para a construcção dos prolongamentos em via de construcção e em projecto.

COMMERCIO E RECURSOS DE SALVADOR.

Segundo cifras estatisticas o valor total dos generos exportados pela Republica de Salvador nos primeiros nove mezes de 1907, foi de $6,000,000, sendo no valor de $1,592,473, as exportações que se fizeram durante o anno para os Estados Unidos. Segundo cifras estatisticas de Salvador, a exportação para os Estados Unidos durante os primeiros nove mezes de 1907, foi no valor de mais de $2,000,000, o que daria um total para o anno muito maior que o registrado.

As receitas dos serviços telegraphico e telephonico do paiz mostram um augmento de mais de $1,000, ao passo que a memoria escripta pelo Sr. ERNEST SCHERNIKOW, Consul de Salvador em New York, sobre a industria mineira, mostra a situação prospera dessa industria e os excellentes resultados obtidos nos ultimos annos.

FINANÇAS E PROGRESSO ECONOMICO DO URUGUAY.

O exercicio de 1907 terminou com um saldo no Thesouro de mais de $2,000,000, ao passo que as rendas para o mesmo anno mostram um augmento de cerca de $6,000,000, sobre as de 1906. Ainda que o augmento verificado nas rendas aduaneiras não seja tão avultado como o dos dous annos anteriores, a arrecadação total foi a maior registrada desde 1894, sendo de mais de $13,000,000. O serviço da divida publica foi pontualmente pago durante o anno.

NOVA LEI DE TARIFA NA VENEZUELA.

A nova lei de tarifa da Venezuela foi promulgada na *"Gaceta Oficial"* da Republica em 13 de janeiro de 1908, e entrou em vigor na nesma data.

APPROVAÇÃO DAS CONVENÇÕES DA CONFERENCIA DE PAZ DA AMERICA CENTRAL.

Os Governos da America Central communicaram ao Departamento de Estado dos Estados Unidos que as convenções concluidas na Conferencia da Paz que se reuniu na cidade de Washington em dezembro de 1907 foram approvadas pelos seus respectivos Congressos nas datas seguintes:

Nicaragua, em 15 de fevereiro de 1908; Costa Rica, em 25 de fevereiro de 1908; Salvador, em 27 de fevereiro de 1908; Honduras, em 3 de março de 1908; Guatemala, em 13 de março de 1908.

PRODUCÇÃO DO CAFÉ NA AMERICA CENTRAL EM 1907.

Uma estimativa da producção do café nas diversas Republicas da America Central no anno de 1907–8, fixa a producção de Guatemala em 600,000 quintaes; Nicaragua, 137,000 quintaes; Salvador, 500,000 quintaes, e Costa Rica, 160,000 saccos.

Nota-se uma diminuição na producção de Nicaragua de 34,500 quintaes, ao passo que a producção de Guatemala não soffreu modificação.

ASSOCIAÇÃO DE CLUBS COSMOPOLITANOS.

A Universidade de Wisconsin, que é a séde do capitulo executivo da Associação de Clubs Cosmopolitanos, poz-se em communicação com mais de vinte dos principaes collegios dos Estados Unidos com o fim de despertar o interesse geral para esta organização.

O movimento tem por objecto a organização de Clubs Cosmopolitanos nos collegios de todos os paizes onde ha estudantes estrangeiros para formar o nucleo de um club deste caracter, os quaes devem associar-se aos clubs cosmopolitanos já organizados com o fim de cultivar as artes da paz e estabelecer relações de amizade internacionaes.

O primeiro club desta natureza foi organizado na Universidade de Michigan em 1903, devido á iniciativa de 18 estudantes estrangeiros, e agora conta 80 membros. Sua influencia tem sido no sentido de estabelecer a organização como uma força permanente na vida collegial.

A Universidade de Wisconsin, conjunctamente com as outras sete universidades que lhe são associadas neste movimento, realizou sua primeira convenção annual em dezembro de 1907. Resolveu-se então iniciar uma propaganda, por meio de correspondencias e troca de publicações, com o fim de estabelecer relações mais intimas entre os clubs de todos os paizes.

Communicações sobre a materia já foram dirigidas ás Universidades do Canadá, á Universidade de Oxford na Inglaterra, ás de Bonn e Berlim na Allemanha, e á Universidade de Paris, assim como ás principaes universidades e collegios dos Estados Unidos. Ha clubs cosmopolitanos na Europa e na America do Sul, os quaes alliados á Associação de Clubs Cosmopolitanos, dariam um grande impulso ao ideal da confraternidade internacional, cujo resultado seria a realização de convenções internacionaes em differentes partes do mundo.

CURSOS SOBRE A AMERICA MERIDIONAL NA UNIVERSIDADE DE YALE.

A Universidade de Yale, que está estabelecida na cidade de New Haven, Estado de Connecticut, enviou á Secretaria Internacional das Republicas Americanas o programma dos cursos da Universidade que se relacionam directa ou indirectamente com a America Latina.

Parece de toda a conveniencia não só pelo ponto de vista dos estudantes sul-americanos, mas tambem pelo dos norte-americanos, que a colonia estrangeira da Universidade seja augmentada por um grupo de estudantes latino-americanos. A Universidade adquiriu

recentemente, por doação, duas importantes collecções de obras sobre a America do Sul, as de Wagner e de Bingham, ao passo que o Museu Hispanico da cidade de New York offereceu aos estudantes dos cursos superiores os privilegios de sua bibliotheca e collecção de objectos. Nas sessões do Club Hespanhol da Universidade são discutidos a historia, commercio, litteratura e assumptos analogos, ao passo que illustres mestres de sciencia e literatos realizam conferencias todos os annos sobre assumptos ibericos.

Os principaes cursos sobre os assumptos em referencia são os seguintes:

Curso elementar de hespanhol; prosa hespanhola dos seculos XVI e XVII; revista geral da litteratura hespanhola; litteratura portugueza antiga; curso elementar de portuguez na escola commercial e consular; leitura e composição em hespanhol; o drama hespanhol nos seculos XVI e XVII; curso elementar e adiantado de hespanhol para os estudantes da escola de sciencias;

Historia hispano-americana; historia e geographia da America do Sul—um curso sobre a geographia especial da America do Sul.

Em alguns dos cursos a frequencia attinge a 120 estudantes. Além destes, ha cursos que se occupam principalmente de assumptos relativos á America do Sul, comprehendendo a primitiva historia da America e colonias hespanholas, colonização e anthropologia, geologia, geographia commercial e direito romano.

O Secretario da Universidade fez publicar a seguinte carta em hespanhol e portuguez, esboçando as ideas e fins da Faculdade a este respeito:

"Universidade de Yale,

"*New Haven* (*Estado de Connecticut, Estados Unidos*).

"Ex^{mo}. Snr.: Ao enviarem á V. Ex^{a}. o catalogo ou programma de estudos da Universidade de Yale, as autoridades d'esta instituição desejam exprimir o seu vivo interesse pelo plano que visa tornar mais estreitas as relações entre os estudantes do Sul e os do Norte da America. Estamos persuadidos de que a frequentação por estudantes da grande Republica Brazileira e dos outros paizes meridionaes de uma das principaes universidades do Norte será vantajosa não só para aquelles, mas tambem para nós, visto que os jovens destinados a assumirem a direcção do nosso paiz, melhor poderão assim comprehender o caracter e os ideaes dos nossos vizinhos da America meridional.

"Ha certos factos tocantes á nossa Universidade que talvez interessem aos estudantes do Sul que quizerem buscar no Norte parte da sua educação universitaria.

"(1) Da cidade de New Haven (Estado de Connecticut), na qual se acha a Universidade de Yale, não ha mais de uma hora e meia a Nova

York, nos comboios expressos. A cidade de Nova York é o porto principal para a maioria dos importantes vapores que veem da America meridional. Esta proximidade á grande metropole norte-americana tem ainda outras vantagens para o estudante estrangeiro, pondo-o em contacto intimo com a vida de todo o paiz. New Haven não dista muito do Capitolio na cidade de Washington, fazendo-se a viagem nos comboios directos em cerca de oito horas.

"(2) A Universidade de Yale é uma instituição historica, tendo sido fundada em 1701. A celebração do seu segundo Centenario foi presenciada por delegados de todas as principaes universidades da Europa. Dá-nos esta historia uma certa atmosphera que não póde senão agradar a estudantes nascidos em paizes que teem uma velha civilização.

"(3) A Universidade observa a mais escrupulosa tolerancia em materias de fé.

"(4) Em quanto ao ensino da nossa Universidade, divide-se este, como na maioria das grandes universidades norte-americanas, em duas secções inteiramente distinctas. A primeira secção abrange o lyceo de humanidades ou artes liberaes assim como a chamada escola technica de Sheffield (ramos comprehendidos pelo termo: Undergraduate Department). A segunda secção abrange todos os cursos e escolas profissionaes ou universitarias (ramos comprehendidos pelo termo: Graduate Department). A nossa Universidade tem as seguintes escolas profissionaes: A escola de lettras, de historia e de sciencias, as escolas de theologia, de medicina, de direito, de bellas-artes, de musica, de sciencia florestal, de metallurgia, e a escola consular. Dos referidos cursos é digno de attenção que são os de engenharia e outras disciplinas praticas que teem recebido especial desenvolvimento.

"(5) A nossa Universidade tem sempre concedido grande logar ao ensino das linguas e litteraturas assim como da historia das nações neolatinas, facto que se torna evidente pelo grande numero de cursos de portuguez, de hespanhol, de francez, de provençal etc., que se fazem todos os annos. Além d'isso, ha aqui todos os annos conferencias publicas feitas por illustres mestres de sciencia e literatos europeus, taes como Ettore Pais, Edouard Rod, o fallecido Brunetière e outros. Além de uma bibliotheca universitaria de perto de 400,000 volumes, na qual se acham largamente representadas a litteratura e historia dos paizes neolatinos, possuimos na nossa escola de bellas-artes, uma rica collecção de pinturas italianas, incluindo originaes de mestres taes como Andrea del Sarto, Botticelli e Correggio.

"Os gastos annuaes variam muito conforme ás necessidades dos estudantes. Póde-se, porém, dizer que a somma de mil dollars em ouro (isto é, um conto de reis moeda forte) satisfará a todas as despezas razoaveis, inclusive preço de aulas, hospedagem, etc.

"A Universidade acceitará, onde fôr possivel, para admissão ás escolas profissionaes, as cartas de curso obtidas nas universidades representativas da America meridional. No caso de um estudante do Sul querer entrar no nosso lyceo de humanidades ou na escola technica, permittir-se-lhe-ha substituir nos exames de admissão o seu conhecimento da lingua portugueza ou hespanhola ao da lingua franceza.

"O abaixo assignado terá muito gosto em ajudar o mais que lhe fôr possivel como official da Universidade, os estudantes que vierem da America meridional, quer indicando casas particulares aos que quizerem aperfeiçoar-se na pratica do idioma inglez, quer recommendando escolas aos que desejarem habilitar-se n'este paiz para a matricula na nossa instituição.

"A sua Ex^{a} o Snr. Elihu Root, Secretario de Estado dos Estados Unidos, assim como a sua Ill^{ma} e Rvd^{ma} John Ireland, Arcebispo de St. Paul (Estado de Minnesota), ambos doutores honorarios de Yale, têm-se declarado dispostos a dar informações acerca da Universidade.

"Deus guarde a V. Ex^{a}.

"Anson Phelps Stokes, Jr.,
"*O Secretario da Universidade.*"

REPUBLICA ARGENTINA.

COMMERCIO EXTERIOR EM 1907.

Segundo os dados estatisticos publicados pela Repartição Geral de Estatistica da Republica Argentina, o commercio exterior deste paiz em 1907, foi no valor de $582,065,052, ouro, contra $562,224,450 em 1906, verificando-se um augmento de $19,840,602. O saldo a favor da Republica é de $10,343,688, ouro.

O valor total dos generos importados durante o anno de 1907, foi de $285,860,683, ouro, ou sejam $15,890,162 mais que em 1906. O valor das mercadorias que entraram livres de direitos foi de $102,461,572, ouro, o que, comparado com o do anno anterior, mostra um augmento de $16,904,317. Os generos que pagaram direitos de importação foram avaliados em $183,399,111, ouro, ou sejam $1,014,155 mais que no anno anterior. Foram exportados durante o anno de 1907, generos no valor de $296,204,369, ouro, isto é, $3,950,540 mais do que em 1906. A exportação sujeita a direitos foi no valor de $1,808, e a livre de direitos, no de $296,202. Comparadas estas cifras com as do anno anterior, resulta que a importação sujeita a direitos tem tido um augmento de $1,763, e a livre de direitos tem augmentado em $3,948,777, ouro.

As importações de ouro e prata durante o anno de que se trata ascenderam a $23,552,726, ouro, ou a $5,340,403, ouro, mais que

em 1906, ao passo que as exportações destes metaes foram no valor de $3,133,886, ouro, o que accusa um augmento de $1,588,264 sobre as do anno anterior.

As importações sujeitas a direitos comprehendem artigos de primeira necessidade, como tecidos, chapéos, productos alimenticios, bebidas, joias, etc. A diminuição na importação de artigos sujeitos a direitos está contrabalançada pela importancia das importações livres de direitos, as quaes constituem despezas productivas, ou capital que não se consome porque está representado por materiaes de vias ferreas, machinas e instrumentos agricolas, etc., elementos todos destinados ao desenvolvimento do paiz. Nesta classe de importações, a Republica tem a seu favor um augmento de $16,904,317, ouro.

Quanto ás exportações, deve-se ter em conta que nas cifras não está comprehendido o valor das exportações de lã, realizadas durante os mezes de outubro a dezembro, e que somma todos os annos entre 15 e 20,000,000 de *pesos*, ouro.

MOVIMENTO DA IMMIGRAÇÃO EM 1907.

Segundo informa o Director Geral do Serviço de Immigração da Republica Argentina, entraram no paiz durante o anno de 1907, 329,122 passageiros e immigrantes, assim discriminados:

	Entradas.	Sahidas.
Passageiros provenientes de portos estrangeiros	15,284	12,497
Passageiros de Montevidéo	55,914	55,172
Immigrantes provenientes de portos estrangeiros	209,103	90,190
Immigrantes de Montevidéo	48,821	47,873
Total	329,122	205,732

A nacionalidade dos immigrantes foi como se segue: Italianos, 90,282; hespanhóes, 82,606; russos, 9,530; turcos, 7,436; francezes, 4,125; austriacos, 3,439; allemães, 2,322; inglezes, 1,659; hungaros, 1,220; portuguezes, 1,118; argentinos, 1,016; gregos, 500; suissos, 486; brazileiros, 482; montenegrinos, 450; bulgaros, 442; dinamarquezes, 378; norte-americanos, 393; rumanos, 223; belgicos, 209; moroccos, 180; hollandezes, 178, e outras nacionalidades em menor numero.

Dos 209,103 immigrantes provenientes de portos estrangeiros, 82,007 vieram constituidos em 25,369 familias, 109,106 eram solteiros e 17,990, solteiras.

MOVIMENTO DAS COLHEITAS EM 1907.

Com relação ás colheitas de trigo e de linho da Republica Argentina no corrente anno, as quaes, segundo os calculos, serão avultadas, pode-se dizer que as companhias de vias ferreas estão providenciando

no sentido de dotar suas linhas com os meios necessarios para o transporte destes productos com promptidão e economia.

Os quadros seguintes demonstram as quantidades de trigo, linho e milho transportadas pelas principaes linhas argentinas em 1907, e a relação por cento entre este trafego e o total:

Estradas de ferro.	Toneladas.	Porcentagem do total.
TRIGO.		
Estrada de Ferro do Pacifico	640,000	32.5
Estrada de Ferro de Rosario	1,070,000	14.5
Grande Estrada de Ferro do Sul	1,779,000	36.4
Estrada de Ferro do Oeste	926,000	39.2
Estrada de Ferro de Cordoba e Rosario	62,000	10.1
Estrada de Ferro Central de Cordoba	22,000	4.1
Estrada de Ferro de Entre Rios	121,000	26.7
LINHO.		
Estrada de Ferro do Pacifico	79,000	4.0
Estrada de Ferro de Rosario	308,000	4.2
Grande Estrada de Ferro do Sul	59,000	1.2
Estrada de Ferro de Cordoba e Rosario	19,000	3.1
Estrada de Ferro Central de Cordoba	1,000	.....
Estrada de Ferro de Entre Rios	76,000	16.3
MILHO.		
Estrada de Ferro do Pacifico	199,000	10.1
Estrada de Ferro de Rosario	1,772,000	24.1
Grande Estrada de Ferro do Sul	497,000	10.1
Estrada de Ferro do Oeste	579,000	24.5
Estrada de Ferro de Cordoba e Rosario	38,000	6.2
Estrada de Ferro Central de Cordoba	6,000	1.1
Estrada de Ferro Central de Cordoba (Ramal do Norte)	17,000	2.5
Estrada de Ferro de Entre Rios	8,000	1.8

CULTURA E MANUFACTURA DO ALGODÃO.

Um relatorio apresentado pelo Consul Francez em Buenos Aires e publicado no "*Moniteur Officiel du Commerce*," em sua edição de 16 de janeiro de 1908, diz que as provincias de La Rioja e Catamarca são as que produzem a melhor qualidade de algodão, e que uma area consideravel está consagrada a esta cultura nas provincias de Cordoba, Tucuman e Corrientes, assim como nos territorios do Chaco e Missões. Os elevados fretes que se cobram nas vias ferreas para o transporte do algodão tendem a retardar o desenvolvimento desta industria. Nas provincias de Tucuman e Cordoba o algodão está sendo actualmente produzido em reduzida escala, e na provincia de Corrientes a industria está ainda em sua infancia, ao passo que nas Missões a planta é muito prejudicada pela praga das formigas. Nota-se o maior desenvolvimento desta cultura na região do Chaco, onde, apezar dos damnos causados pela molestia denominada "rouja," cresce um algodão de fibra comprida de bôa qualidade, que é muito apreciado nos mercados de Havre e Liverpool. Estão-se fazendo esforços, porém, para exterminar a molestia.

No districto do Chaco existem grande numero de descaroçadores de algodão, os quaes beneficiaram durante o anno de 1907, cerca de 800 toneladas metricas de algodão, sendo a metade desta quanti-

dade consumida em Buenos Aires e o restante foi enviado ao mercado de Liverpool. Os caroços de algodão vendem-se á fabrica de Colonelli que é a unica no paiz que tem installação para a manufactura de oleo de algodão. Fez-se uma fusão das tres companhias manufactureiras de algodão existentes no paiz, sob a firma social de "*Sociedad Hilanderias Argentinas de Algodón,*" com o capital de $875,000. Esta companhia empregou no anno passado cerca de 400 toneladas de algodão nacional e a quantidade contractada para o corrente anno mostra um augmento sobre a do anno passado. A companhia tem um importante estabelecimento em General Vedia no Chaco, com uma duzia de fabricas em Resistencia e uma fabrica de fiação em Buenos Aires, com a capacidade de 2,000 kilogrammas de fios por dia.

A safra de 1907 é calculada em 7,000 toneladas metricas. A area em cultivo é estimada em 4,644 hectares, assim distribuidos:

Chaco, 3,280 hectares; Formosa, 111; Missões, 68; Corrientes, 495; Santa Fé, 275; Catamarca, 22, e La Rioja, 215.

Foram importados durante o anno cerca de 52,622 kilogrammas de algodão.

CULTURA DO ARROZ NA REPUBLICA.

Segundo dados estatisticos publicados pelo Departamento da Agricultura da Republica Argentina, a producção nacional do arroz no anno de 1907 foi de 13,000,000 kilos, e a area total dos terrenos semeados foi de 4,352 hectares. A area sob cultivo foi assim distribuida: Provincia de Tucuman, 2,900 hectares; Salta, 440 hectares; Jujuy, 357 hectares; San Juan, 275 hectares; Santiago del Estero, 10 hectares, e Missões, 370 hectares. A producção média é de 3,000 kilos por hectare, e os gastos de producção são calculados em $150 moeda nacional por hectare. Como o preço do arroz com casca regula por $9 a $10 por 100 kilos, vê-se que o cultivador desse producto obtem um bom lucro. Diz-se que a producção média do arroz nas Provincias de Salta e Jujuy é maior do que na de Tucuman, e que na Provincia de Jujuy, o custo de producção não excede de $135 por hectare, devido ao facto que a mão d'obra é mais barata e a agua para a irrigação é fornecida gratuitamente. Porém, dèvido ao pouco cuidado que se toma na selecção das sementes, o arroz nacional é inferior em qualidade ao estrangeiro.

Segundo dados estatisticos, foram importadas em 1903, 1,681 toneladas de arroz com casca e 26,035 toneladas de arroz descascado; em 1904, 3,912 toneladas com casca, e 24,346 toneladas de arroz descascado; em 1905, 2,159 toneladas com casca, e 21,698 toneladas, descascado, ao passo que em 1906 a importação das duas classes subiu a 10,791 e 23,518 toneladas, respectivamente.

Durante os primeiros nove mezes de 1907 foram importadas 12,716 toneladas de arroz com casca, no valor de $254,320, e 15,415 toneladas de arroz descascado, avaliadas em $1,233,145.

O arroz com casca importa-se principalmente das possessões britannicas, attingindo a 10,197 toneladas a importação dessa procedencia em 1906, ao passo que o arroz descascado provem em sua maior parte da Italia, fornecendo este paiz 19,600 toneladas em 1906.

O Departamento julga que o arroz pode ser cultivado vantajosamente na Provincia de Cordoba, e que as ilhas que formam o delta do Paraná são particularmente adaptadas a essa cultura.

O imposto de importação, actualmente vigente, é de 25 por cento sobre o valor official, que é calculado em $20 ouro por tonelada de arroz com casca, e $80 ouro por tonelada de arroz descascado.

BOLIVIA.

COMMERCIO COM OS ESTADOS UNIDOS EM 1907.

O Sr. Ignacio Calderón, Ministro da Bolivia em Washington, informa á Secretaria Internacional das Republicas Americanas que, segundo os relatorios consulares correspondentes ao anno de 1907, o valor dos productos exportados dos portos de New York e San Francisco no anno de 1907, com destino á Bolivia, foi de $2,852,460.30, contra $1,136,603.91 no anno de 1906, verificando-se assim um augmento de $1,715,856.39. A exportação desses portos em 1905, com destino á Bolivia, foi por valor de $1,720,000, do que resulta um augmento nos ultimos dous annos de 100 por cento.

Segundo a estatistica official dos Estados Unidos, o valor da exportação deste paiz com destino á Bolivia foi apenas de $1,502,622, pois muitos generos destinados áquelle paiz são importados pelos portos do Chile.

BRAZIL.

ADHESÃO Á CONVENÇÃO SANITARIA INTERNACIONAL.

A Secretaria Internacional das Republicas Americanas foi informada por intermedio do Departamento de Estado dos Estados Unidos que o Presidente do Brazil promulgou em 9 de janeiro de 1908 o seguinte decreto, adherindo á Convenção Sanitaria Internacional de Washington:

"O Presidente da Republica dos Estados Unidos do Brazil: Faço saber que o Congresso Nacional decretou e eu sancciono a resolução seguinte:

"Artigo 1. É approvada a resolução firmada no Rio de Janeiro pela Terceira Conferencia Internacional Americana em 23 de agosto de 1906, adherindo á Convenção Sanitaria Internacional de Washington e pondo em pratica os seus preceitos.

"Art. 2. Revogam-se as disposições em contrario."

COMMERCIO EXTERIOR DURANTE OS ONZE MEZES DE 1907.

Segundo os dados estatisticos publicados pelo Serviço de Estatistica Commercial, o valor dos productos importados no Brasil durante os mezes de janeiro a novembro de 1907 foi de 583,333:895$, contra 437,819:546$ em igual periodo de 1906.

As exportações nos dous periodos em comparação, foram de 803,486:531$ e 715,072:535$, respectivamente.

IMMIGRAÇÃO EM 1907.

Durante o anno de 1907 entraram pelo porto do Rio de Janeiro 31,173 immigrantes, ou sejam mais 4,026 do que no anno anterior; só no mez de dezembro ultimo entraram 4,236, ou mais 1,514 do que em igual mez do anno anterior.

De setembro a dezembro de 1907 entraram 13,394, ao passo que em igual periodo de 1906 entraram 10,577, ou menos 2,817.

A média annual de espontaneos desembarcados neste porto desde 1890 a 1906 attingiu a 21,834. A entrada em 1907 excedeu em 9,339 a essa média dos dezesete annos anteriores.

CONCURRENCIA PARA AS OBRAS DE MELHORAMENTO DO PORTO DO RECIFE.

O Ministro de Estado da Industria, Viação e Obras Publicas do Brazil solicitou propostas para a construcção das obras de melhoramento do porto do Recife, Estado de Pernambuco, de conformidade com o projecto approvado pelo Decreto de 14 de novembro de 1907. Serão recebidas as propostas até ao meio dia de 26 de março de 1908.

As obras a executar comprehendem um quebra-mar com a extensão total de 1,147 metros e a profundidade de nove metros sob aguas minimas; um molhe com a extensão total de 798 metros; cáes para atracação, carga e descarga de navios; o alteamento e regularização da antiga muralha sobre os recifes; a dragagem geral no porto para o seu aprofundamento a 9 metros sob aguas minimas, desde a nova entrada do porto entre os cabeços dos quebra-mares até o começo dos cáes de oito metros de agua, dahi em deante a oito metros sob o mesmo nivel até a distancia de 200 metros do extremo sul dos mesmos cáes; o aterro comprehendido entre os novos cáes e o actual littoral; o arrazamento do baixio rochoso que obstrue em parte a entrada do porto; construcção de sete armazens e o apparelhamento dos caés com linhas ferreas de bitola de um metro, linhas de guindastes electricos, calçamento e drenagem nas ruas.

Estes trabalhos estão avaliados na quantia de 49,411:671$, e deverão ser concluidos dentro do prazo de seis annos, contados da data do contracto, sendo incluido neste periodo o tempo necessario para a empreza

contractante apparelhar-se e installar todos os serviços, tempo este que não poderá passar de um anno.

O texto das especificações e condições é publicado em sua integra na "Brazilian Review," de 14 de janeiro de 1908.

COMMERCIO DO PORTO DE SANTOS EM 1907.

Segundo dados organizados pelo Serviço de Estatistica Commercial, o valor total do commercio do porto de Santos com paizes estrangeiros durante o anno de 1907, foi de 342,688:366$, contra 308,161:603$ em 1906.

As mercadorias que mais avultaram na importação foram as manufacturas de ferro e aço, generos alimenticios e tecidos. As mercadorias cujo valor mais avulta na exportação foram o café, couros, borracha, farello e bananas.

CHILE.

RENDAS ADUANEIRAS EM 1907.

As rendas arrecadadas pelas diversas alfandegas da Republica durante o anno de 1907 foram na importancia de 120,305,347.90 *pesos*, ou mais 6,989,109.32 *pesos* do que no anno anterior, quando attingiram á somma de 113,316,238.53 *pesos*. O rendimento no mez de dezembro de 1907 foi de 12,734,256.90 *pesos*, contra 12,009,435.32 *pesos* em igual mez de 1906.

VERBA VOTADA PARA O CUSTEIO DAS ESTRADAS DE FERRO FEDERAES EM 1908.

A importancia total das verbas votadas para occorrer ás despezas com as estradas de ferro federaes durante o anno de 1908, attinge a 46,406,250.50 *pesos*, e é distribuida assim entre as differentes linhas:

Linhas.	Pesos.
Rede Central	43,896,250.50
Estrada de Ferro Chañaral	635,000.00
Estradade Ferro Huasco	225,000.00
Estrada de Ferro de Coquimbo	1,320,000.00
Estrada de Ferro de Tongoi	170,000.00
Los Vilos	160,000.00
Total	46,406,250.50

PERMUTAÇÃO DE VALES POSTAES COM O JAPÃO.

O serviço dos vales postaes entre o Chile e o Japão foi estabelecido em 1° de janeiro de 1908. As lettras poderão ser sacadas sobre qualquer ponto do Japão, incluindo as ilhas de Formosa, Pescadores e Sakhalien, devendo ser os valores expressos em francos e centimos de accordo com os equivalentes fixados. O valor maximo dos vales postaes será de 1,000 francos.

DIREITOS DE IMPORTAÇÃO E ARMAZENAGEM.

A lei que foi approvada pelo Congresso Nacional do Chile em 9 de setembro de 1907, e promulgada no "Diario Oficial," no dia 11 do mesmo mez, estabelece que os direitos de importação e de armazenagem serão pagos em pesos, ouro, na forma estabelecida pela lei No. 1992 de 27 de agosto de 1907.

TRATADO DE COMMERCIO COM A DINAMARCA.

O "Diario Oficial" do Chile, em sua edição de 29 de novembro de 1907, publica o texto do tratado de commercio celebrado em Berlim em 9 de abril de 1907, entre os Governos do Chile e da Dinamarca, em virtude do qual os cidadãos de cada uma das Altas Partes Contractantes gozarão, quanto ao seu commercio e navegação, dos mesmos direitos e favores de que gozam os cidadãos das nações mais favorecidas.

Fica estipulado, porém, que os favores ou concessões especiaes quanto a direitos de importacão, de porto ou de doca, que forem concedidos pelo Chile exclusivamente a outros paizes da America Central ou do Sul, não poderão ser estendidos á Dinamarca, em virtude das disposições deste tratado.

As duas Altas Partes Contractantes reservam-se o direito de modificar as leis e regulamentos com respeito ao commercio de cabotagem em favor das companhias nacionaes, podendo o Chile conceder favores ás companhias de navegação dos paizes da America Central e do Sul, sem que a Dinamarca tenha o direito de pedir identicos favores, e reciprocamente, podendo a Dinamarca conceder favores ás companhias de navegação dos Estados da Scandinavia, sem que o Chile possa reclamar iguaes favores, comtanto que taes concessões não se façam extensivas ás outras nações.

COLOMBIA.

MOVIMENTO DE EXPORTAÇÃO DO PORTO DE CARTAGENA EM 1907.

Conforme dados fornecidos á Secretaria Internacional das Republicas Americanas pelo Consul dos Estados Unidos, o Sr. I. A. MANNING, houve um augmento nas exportações realizadas pelo porto de Cartagena em 1907, comparadas com as do anno anterior.

As exportações de café augmentaram em 3,988,647 kilos; as de tabaco, 2,267,151 kilos; marfim vegetal, 1,968,816 kilos, e borracha, 20,052 kilos.

Estas exportações tiveram os seguintes destinos:

Paizes.	1906.	1907.
CAFÉ.	*Kilos.*	*Kilos.*
Estados Unidos	4,432,603	7,404,329
Reino Unido	783,511	1,346,662
Allemanha	740,711	1,119,299
França	31,344	68,472
Outros paizes	9,695	47,749
FUMO.		
Allemanha	1,713,660	3,980,811
MARFIM VEGETAL.		
Estados Unidos	7,528	440,772
Reino Unido		53,031
Allemanha	1,862,574	3,422,964
França	591,438	505,589
BORRACHA.		
Estados Unidos	86,399	86,569
Reino Unido	72,787	77,360
Allemanha	40,751	36,352
França	33,943	43,750
Outros paizes		9,901

EQUADOR.

CONDIÇÕES INTERNAS.

O Consul Britannico em Guayaquil, em um relatorio que dirigiu ao seu Governo sobre as condições economicas do Equador no anno de 1907, diz que tanto a exportação de productos nacionaes, como cacáo, borracha, chapéos, etc., como a importação, mostram augmentos sobre as do anno anterior.

Com respeito ás obras publicas, diz que a Estrada de Ferro de Quito foi a principal obra emprehendida, a qual foi successivamente concluida até Mocha, Ambato, Latacunga e Chasqui, e segundo as ultimas noticias recebidas, a linha já chegou á estação de Aloasi, que fica a 35 kilometros de Quito.

O contracto concluido entre o Governo e a "Guayaquil and Quito Railroad Company" estipula que a linha deverá estar concluida em 14 de junho de 1907, mas a companhia deixou de cumprir as clausulas do contracto, e por conseguinte foram nomeados arbitros para resolver os diversos pontos em questão entre as partes contractantes.

A Estrada de Ferro de Puerto Bolivar a Machala foi prolongada durante o anno até aos districtos de cacáo e tem sido de grande beneficio no transporte deste producto para o mar.

Informa mais o Consul CARTRIGHT que a Estrada de Ferro de Huigra a Cuenca parece ter sido abandonada pelos concessionarios; os trabalhos no trecho que se estende a Chone no districto do cacáo, ainda que fossem iniciados com fundos publicos, foram abandonados e o material que se importou para este fim, está exposto á acção das intemperies. Igualmente ficaram interrompidos os trabalhos de cons-

truccão da Estrada de Ferro de Curaray, da de Santa Rosa a Zaruma, da de Guayaquil a Salinas, e de Manta a Santa Ana.

O novo mercado de Guayaquil foi concluido e o estado da saude publica tem melhorado como resultado do emprego do processo Dixon para a destruição do lixo. Estão em via de construccão outros edificios publicos, e segundo informações recebidas, a população da cidade de Guayaquil augmentou de 80,000 a 90,000 habitantes.

A illuminação electrica foi estabelecida nas principaes ruas, cáes e docas e nos novos suburbios da capital. Propõe-se gerar a electricidade por força hydraulica, aproveitando-se das correntes das montanhas ou dos cursos de agua ao pé das Cordilheiras, que ficam á distancia de 55 até 58 milhas da cidade. Os trabalhos de construcção do tramway electrico proseguem com actividade.

Foram feitos contractos para o novo serviço do abastecimento de agua nas cidades de Quito e Riobamba, sendo o serviço do abastecimento de agua da cidade de Riobamba contractado com um engenheiro civil dos Estados Unidos.

A cultura do assucar vai desenvolvendo-se em toda a Republica, tendo a producção de 1906 attingido a 7,000 toneladas. O consumo nacional deste producto, porém, augmentou em proporção, de modo que foi necessario importar cerca de 1,200 toneladas de assucar, para auxiliar a producção nacional.

Em virtude de uma lei promulgada em fins de 1906, concedendo ao assucar isenção de direitos de importação, o assucar de procedencia do Peru e da America Central pode entrar no paiz sem outro onus que as despezas de frete e carreto. O resultado desta medida foi uma baixa sensivel no preço do producto nacional, de modo que hoje é igual ao que se paga pelo assucar importado.

Os negocios da cervejaria de Guayaquil continuaram sem alteração, mas como resultado da reducção no imposto de importação sobre a cerveja estrangeira, faz-lhe forte concurrencia a cerveja allemã e americana.

O sal, de cuja producção o Governo tem o monopolio, foi exportado vantajosamente durante o anno de 1906–7, para Tumaco e Buenaventura na Colombia. Porém, a exportação deste producto é ainda feita em muito reduzida escala.

As fabricas de algodão no interior do paiz foram muito prejudicadas pela escassez da materia prima e agora se propõe importar o algodão do Peru, apezar de ser o producto onerado com um imposto de importação de cerca de cinco centavos por libra. Devido á escassez no paiz de farinha de trigo, foi decretada em dezembro de 1906, uma lei concedendo isenção de direitos de importação ao trigo e outros cereaes, ervilhas, feijão, etc.

Os embarques de cacáo, que constitue a maior parte da exportação do paiz, não soffreram alteração, sendo um pouco menos de 21,000

toneladas em 1905 e 1906, os ultimos annos de que temos estatistica; mas nota-se um augmento no valor dessa exportação. O preço médio augmentou de $15 por 50 kilos, a bordo em Guayaquil, em 1905, a $17 em 1906, e a $23.50 em 1907. Isto tem sido de grande beneficio aos interesses agricolas e commerciaes e contribuiu sensivelmente para o augmento do valor das exportações do paiz.

O marfim vegetal figura em segundo lugar, tanto em volume como em valor, entre os productos equatorianos exportados, sendo exportadas 21,796 toneladas deste producto em 1906, contra 19,036 toneladas em 1905. O preço deste artigo tambem augmentou consideravelmente. Em 1905, o preço médio do marfim vegetal descascado foi de $4, e o do marfim com casca, $2.75 por 100 libras. Em 1906, o preço ascendeu a $4.50 para a noz descascada, e a $3 para a noz com casca, e em 1907, como resultado do augmento nos direitos de exportação, os consumidores da Europa (os quaes recebem 75 por cento do seu supprimento do Equador e cerca de 25 por cento da Colombia) viram-se na necessidade de comprar o producto a preços muito mais elevados, regulando, para as nozes com casca, por $3.50 as 100 libras, e, para as nozes descascadas, por $5.75, por 100 libras. Da exportação total deste producto, 60 por cento correspondem ás nozes descascadas, e 40 por cento ás com casca.

A exportação de chapéos de palha, que figuram em terceiro lugar no quadro da exportação, mostra um progressivo augmento, tendo subido de $350,000 em 1904 a $440,000 em 1905, e a $1,220,000 em 1906, e o Consul julga que o valor registrado em 1906 está muito aquém do valor real.

A exploração da borracha proseguiu activamente e mesmo com enthusiasmo, sendo a extracção feita em districtos muito mais afastados dos portos. A producção de 1906 foi calculada em 620 toneladas.

Os materiaes para estradas de ferro e abastecimentos de agua são fornecidos em sua maior parte pelos Estados Unidos, ao passo que da Grã Bretanha se importam os tecidos de algodão, camas de ferro, ferro galvanizado, barras de ferro, tubos, estanho em folha e obras de estanho, saccos e tecidos de juta, tecidos de linho e cachemiras.

ESTADOS UNIDOS.

COMMERCIO COM OS PAIZES LATINO-AMERICANOS.

RELAÇÃO MENSAL DA IMPORTAÇÃO E EXPORTAÇÃO.

O quadro apresentado na pagina 589 é extrahido dos dados compilados pelo Chefe da Repartição de Estatistica do Departamento do Commercio e Trabalho, mostrando o movimento commercial entre os Estados Unidos e os paizes latino-americanos. A relação corres-

ponde ao mez de janeiro de 1908, com uma identica comparativa para o mez correspondente do anno anterior, assim como para os sete mezes findos em janeiro de 1908, comparados com o periodo correspondente do anno precedente. Deve-se explicar que os algarismos das diversas alfandegas, mostrando as importações e exportações de um só mez, são recebidos no Departamento do Thesouro até quasi o dia 20 do mez seguinte, e perde-se algum tempo necessariamente em sua compilação e impressão. Por conseguinte, as estatisticas para o mez de janeiro, por exemplo, não são publicadas até os primeiros dias de março.

IMPORTAÇÃO DO CAFÉ NO ANNO DE 1907.

A quantidade total de café importado pelos Estados Unidos durante o anno de 1907 foi de 940,247,312 libras, contra 857,013,585 libras no anno anterior. Para a importação total, o Brazil contribuiu com 727,187,465 libras, ou seja 77.34 por cento, e o Continente Americano, com cerca de 98 por cento. Os outros paizes da America do Sul concorreram com 103,536,649 libras; os Estados da America Central, com 14,822,658 libras, sendo um pouco mais de 2 por cento do total fornecido pelas Indias Orientaes, Europa, Africa e outras partes da Asia.

O consumo por habitante no anno de 1907 foi de cerca de 11 libras e o preço médio do café importado foi de 7.64 centavos a libra.

EXPORTAÇÃO DA BORRACHA MANUFACTURADA EM 1907.

Segundo dados officiaes, o valor dos artefactos de borracha e gutta-percha exportados pelos Estados Unidos durante o anno de 1907, foi de $6,993,333, comparado com $5,658,606 em 1906. Estas exportações foram assim discriminadas: Correame, gacheta e mangueiras de borracha, $1,402,373; calçado, $1,646,880; e outras obras de borracha, $3,944,080.

ESTATISTICA PECUARIA EM 1° DE JANEIRO DE 1908.

Segundo dados estatisticos publicados pelo Departamento da Agricultura dos Estados Unidos, o numero e valor dos animaes existentes nos estabelecimentos ruraes do paiz em 1° de janeiro de 1908, foi o seguinte:

Gado cavallar, 19,993,000 cabeças, no valor de $1,867,530,000; gado muar, 3,869,000 cabeças, no valor de $416,939,000; vaccas leiteiras, 21,194,000 cabeças, no valor de $650,057,000; gado ovelhum, 54,631,000, no valor de $211,736,000; gado suino, 56,084,000 cabeças, no valor de $339,030,000; outros animaes, 50,073,000, no valor de $845,938,000.

Comparadas estas cifras com as do anno anterior, verifica-se um augmento no gado cavallar de 245,000 cabeças; gado muar, 52,000;

vaccas leiteiras, 226,000; gado ovelhum, 1,391,000; gado suino, 1,390,000. Os outros animaes diminuiram em 1,493,000.

Quanto aos valores, o gado cavallar mostra um augmento de $20,952,000; o gado muar, uma diminuição de $11,125,000; vaccas leiteiras, um augmento de $4,560,000; gado ovelhum, um augmento de $7,526,000; gado suino, uma diminuição de $78,761,000. Os outros animaes mostram uma diminuição de $35,619,000.

O valor total dos animaes existentes no paiz em 1° de janeiro de 1908, foi de $4,331,230,000, comparado com $4,423,698,000 em igual data de 1907, o que accusa uma diminuição de $92,468,000, ou seja 2.1 por cento.

CONVENÇÃO SOBRE RECLAMAÇÕES PECUNIARIAS.

O Governo dos Estados Unidos fez publica a ratificação pelo Congresso Nacional em 2 de março de 1907, da Convenção, firmada em 13 de agosto de 1906 pelos delegados dos Governos representados na Terceira Conferencia Internacional, estabelecendo que o tratado sobre reclamações pecuniarias, assignado no Mexico a 30 de janeiro de 1902, continuará em vigor, excepção feita do artigo terceiro.

RATIFICAÇÃO DA CONVENÇÃO SOBRE CODIGOS DE DIREITO INTERNACIONAL.

O Senado dos Estados Unidos approvou em 3 de fevereiro de 1908, a Convenção de 23 de agosto de 1906, concluida na cidade do Rio de Janeiro, na Terceira Conferencia Internacional Americana, creando uma Commissão Internacional de Jurisconsultas, encarregada de preparar um Codigo de Direito Internacional Privado e outro de Direito Internacional Publico, que regulem as relações entre os paizes da America.

EXPORTAÇÃO DE PRODUCTOS ANIMAES NO ANNO DE 1907.

Os dados estatisticos da exportação de animaes e productos animaes dos Estados Unidos no anno de 1907, comparados com os do anno anterior demonstram uma diminuição, para o primeiro, de $4,637,040, e para o ultimo, de $6,553,359.

O valor total das exportações de productos animaes realizadas no anno de 1907 foi de $192,962,623, contra $199,515,982 em 1906, ao passo que as exportações de animaes para o consumo nos dous annos em comparação, foram no valor de $34,808,819 e $39,445,859, respectivamente.

A diminuição verificada na exportação de productos animaes foi realizada principalmente nos seguintes productos: Toucinho, cerca de $13,000,000; banha, $2,500,000; carne em latas, $1,500,000; carne em salmoura, $1,500,000; e pequenas quantias em salsichas e productos de oleomargarina. Nota-se um augmento de $3,000,000 na

exportação de presuntos; porco em salmoura, $2,500,000; compostos de banha, $2,000,000; carne fresca, $1,500,000; oleo, $1,250,000, e tripas para salsichas, $750,000.

A exportação de animaes para consumo mostra uma diminuição de $4,500,000; porcos, $37,000, e carneiros, $123,000.

DESINFECÇÃO DE COUROS IMPORTADOS.

O Departamento do Thesouro dos Estados Unidos expediu na ultima semana de janeiro de 1908, uma ordem revogando a circular expedida em 18 de julho de 1907, que estabelece que todos os couros que forem importados no paiz deverão ser previamente desinfectados.

De conformidade com a decisão do Thesouro n. 23212, de 30 de julho de 1908, todos os couros de gado que não estejam secos, salgados ou preparados com arsenico, quando importados dos paizes da Europa, Africa, Asia, Australia, e a America do Sul, deverão vir acompanhados de um certificado, no qual se declare sua previa desinfecção.

INDUSTRIA DO FUMO EM 1907.

Segundo dados estatisticos organizados pelo "*United States Tobacco Journal*," da relação mensal das rendas internas do paiz, o numero de charutos manufacturados em 1907 foi de 7,353,232,089, contra 7,373,490,996 no anno anterior, o que accusa uma diminuição de 20,258,907. O numero dos charutos denominados "pequenos," augmentou de 994,791,203 em 1906, a 1,069,079,350 em 1907, ou seja um augmento de 74,288,147, ao passo que a manufactura de cigarros apresenta um augmento de 930,061,509, em confronto com os de 1906, sendo de 5,298,790,523 e 4,368,729,015, respectivamente, nos dous annos.

A quantidade de fumo manufacturado em 1907 mostra um augmento de 2,097,158 libras sobre a do anno anterior, sendo de 361,060,437 libras e 358,963,279 libras, respectivamente.

MEXICO.

COMMERCIO EXTERIOR NOS PRIMEIROS CINCO MEZES DE 1907-8.

Segundo os dados estatisticos publicados pela Divisão de Estatistica do Departamento da Fazenda e Credito Publico da Republica do Mexico, o valor total dos generos importados durante os primeiros cinco mezes do exercicio de 1907–8 (julho a novembro de 1907), foi de 103,403,272.82 *pesos*, contra 87,947,188.63 *pesos*, em igual periodo do anno anterior, o que mostra um augmento de 15,456,084.14 *pesos*. A importação no mez de novembro de 1907, attingiu ao valor de

20,604,265.16 *pesos*, contra 19,572,488.49 *pesos* em igual mez de 1906, o que mostra um augmento de 1,031,776.67 *pesos*.

Foram exportados durante o periodo de que se trata productos no valor de 109,928,021.86 *pesos*, contra 96,141,669.80 *pesos* em igual periodo de 1906–7, verificando-se um augmento de 13,786,352.06 *pesos*. O valor dos productos exportados no mez de novembro de 1907 foi de 23,554,571.60 pesos, ou mais 181,893.71 *pesos* que em igual mez de 1906, quando attingiu a 23,372,677.89 *pesos*.

DEPOSITOS DE ASPHALTO DA REPUBLICA.

Segundo um relatorio consular britannico sobre os depositos de asphalto na Republica, este producto encontra-se principalmente nos districtos de Tuxpam e Tampico no Golfo do Mexico. Esta substancia está sendo explorada em grande escala, especialmente no districto de Tuxpam cujo producto obtem alta cotação nos mercados do mundo. Na actualidade, a procura deste producto excede ao supprimento. De quando em quando se enviam pequenos carregamentos para a Europa, principalmente com destino á Allemanha. O preço do asphalto mexicano regula por 55 pesos a tonelada.

O asphalto de Tampico consiste principalmente do residuo do petroleo extrahido pela Companhia de Petroleo Mexicana de Ebano, que fica a cerca de 40 milhas a oeste de Tampico. O petroleo destillado deste asphalto crú é empregado como combustivel. O estabelecimento de destillação de Ebano tem a capacidade de 50 toneladas de asphalto por dia, mas por causa do limitado numero de barris de que dispõe a Companhia para o seu acondicionamento, a producção até agora não attingiu a esta quantidade.

Calcula-se em muitos milhares de toneladas a quantidade de asphalto existente nos districtos de Tampico e Tuxpam, mas a industria está ainda em sua infancia. A procura do asphalto augmenta em toda a parte da Republica, e crê-se que dentro em poucos annos haverá um enorme desenvolvimento deste ramo de actividade.

Com a conclusão do canal de Tuxpam, serão muito augmentados os meios de transporte entre as zonas do asphalto e o porto de Tampico.

PERU.

RENDAS ADUANEIRAS, PRIMEIRO SEMESTRE DE 1907.

As rendas arrecadadas pelas alfandegas da Republica do Peru no primeiro semestre de 1907 foram na importancia de £513,791.4.07, das quaes £348,226.2.73 foram arrecadadas pela Alfandega de Callão, e £80,066.3.73, pela Alfandega de Mollendo, que é a segunda em importancia.

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URUGUAY.

RENDAS ADUANEIRAS EM 1907.

As rendas arrecadadas pelas alfandegas da Republica durante o anno de 1907 sommaram $13,195,210, comparadas com $12,863,597 no anno anterior, o que mostra um augmento de $331,612. Ainda que o augmento sobre 1906 não seja tão grande como o verificado em 1906 sobre 1905, o total das rendas para o anno foi o maior registrado nos ultimos quatorze ánnos, ou desde 1894.

As receitas arrecadadas durante os mezes de janeiro, fevereiro, maio, junho, julho, agosto e dezembro de 1907, comparadas com as dos mezes correspondentes de 1906, apresentam um augmento, ao passo que a arrecadação nos outros cinco mezes, em confronto com a dos mesmos mezes de 1906, mostra uma diminuição.

Cumpre notar que este augmento realizou-se nos direitos de importação, sendo estes na importancia de $11,852,041 em 1907, contra $11,395,656 no anno anterior. Por outro lado, os impostos de exportação baixaram de $1,467,941 em 1906 a $1,343,168 em 1907. Assim parece que, ainda que o paiz compre maior quantidade de artigos do que em annos anteriores, não augmentou em proporção a venda dos seus productos.

Na importancia das rendas aduaneiras, não estão comprehendidos os direitos addicionaes destinados ao fundo para as obras de melhoramento dos portos, os quaes importaram em $1,200,000, mais ou menos.

SITUAÇÃO FINANCEIRA EM 1906-7.

Do confronto da receita e despeza da Republica Oriental do Uruguay no exercicio que terminou em 30 de julho de 1907, resulta um saldo de $2,149,984, comparado com $453,110 no exercicio anterior, assim estabelecendo um *record* de prosperidade para o paiz.

O total da receita arrecadada no exercicio de 1907 elevou-se a $26,159,411, o que mostra um augmento de cerca de $6,000,000 sobre a receita do exercicio anterior. Deste saldo, a somma de $1,000,000 foi accrescida ao capital do Banco da Republica para o augmento de sua emissão de notas, e a maior parte do restante foi destinado a diversas obras publicas e serviços.

O serviço da divida publica foi pontualmente feito, e os pagamentos internos se effectuaram com regularidade.

PALAIS DE JUSTICE, À ROSARIO, RÉPUBLIQUE ARGENTINE. DEUXIÈME VILLE DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE, AVEC UNE POPULATION DE PLUS DE 160,000 HABITANTS.

Courts of Justice, Rosario, Argentine Republic Second city of the Republic in size, population over 160,000.

Bulletin Mensuel

DU

Bureau International des Républiques Américaines,

Union Internationale des Républiques Américaines.

Vol. XXVI. MARS 1908. No. 3.

(Un grand nombre des articles que l'on traite ci-dessous ne sont publiés en entier que dans les parties anglaise et espagnole du Bulletin.)

Au moment où ce Bulletin paraîtra, on aura reçu les soumissions des compagnies qui ont été invitées à prendre part à l'adjudication des travaux de construction du nouveau bâtiment du Bureau International. Il ne faudra que peu de temps pour faire le choix de l'adjudicataire et on devrait commencer les travaux actuels le 15 avril au plus tard. On fera de grands efforts pour pousser activement les travaux afin que l'édifice puisse être pour ainsi dire achevé avant que le Secrétaire d'État et président du Conseil d'administration se retire de son ministère en mars 1909. Par suite de l'intérêt tout particulier que le Secrétaire Root a toujours manifesté au sujet des relations des États-Unis avec l'Amérique Latine, de la réorganisation et de l'agrandissement du Bureau et de l'attention de M. Carnegie qu'il a su attirer sur l'importance des travaux du Bureau, de manière à ce qu'il ait jugé bon de lui faire le don généreux de $750,000 pour un nouveau bâtiment, le Conseil d'administration est de l'opinion unanime que l'on doit faire l'impossible afin de pouvoir faire la dédicace de ce nouveau bâtiment pendant son administration. Les plans et devis, tels qu'ils ont été définitivement approuvés par le Secrétaire d'État et le Directeur du Bureau, agissant pour le Conseil d'administration, font voir bien des améliorations sur les dessins originaux de cet édifice et cet édifice sera sans contredit l'un des plus beaux de Washington. Il sera en même temps artistique et utile, donnant bien l'idée du but auquel il est consacré tout en étant adapté au travail pratique du Bureau. On espère pouvoir publier dans le Bulletin du mois d'avril les photographies des dessins revus et corrigés. Le délai occasionné dans l'achèvement des plans et devis par les architectes est dû en grande partie aux revisions des premiers dessins et à l'étude soignée de tous les détails.

MORT DE SEÑOR DON JOSÉ ALGARA.

Par suite de la mort de Son Excellence José Algara, sous-secrétaire au ministère des Affaires étrangères du Mexique, décédé dans la capitale le 10 courant, le pays vient de perdre un de ses fils les plus dévoués et les plus distingués et le Bureau International un ami sincère et dévoué. Señor Algara a occupé des postes très importants demandant une grande responsabilité, parmi lesquels celui de professeur de droit international privé et de droit comparatif à l'École de Jurisprudence de Mexico. Il a été aussi membre du Conseil des Directeurs de l'École de Droit, sous-secrétaire d'État et a occupé d'autres positions administratives dans lesquelles il a toujours fait preuve d'une grande habilité.

NOUVEAU COMITÉ PAN-AMÉRICAIN.

La troisième Conférence pan-américaine tenue à Rio de Janeiro a eu la bonne idée de nommer dans chaque pays, sous la présidence du ministre des Affaires étrangères, un comité qui devra coopérer avec lui pour obtenir l'approbation des traités, conventions et décisions approuvés par la Conférence ainsi qu'avec le Bureau International des Républiques Américaines pour prendre les mesures nécessaires afin d'augmenter le commerce et de resserrer les liens d'amitié entre les différents pays pan-américains. Dernièrement M. Root a demandé aux personnes suivantes de bien vouloir faire partie de ce comité aux États-Unis:

M. Andrew Carnegie;

L'honorable William I. Buchanan, président de la délégation à la troisième Conférence pan-américaine;

L'honorable Stephen B. Elkins, sénateur de la Virginie de l'Ouest;

M. Charles B. Landis, député de l'Indiana;

M. James L. Slayden, député du Texas;

M. A. E. Bates, général en retraite de l'Armée des États-Unis;

M. L. S. Rowe, professeur à l'Université de Pensylvanie et délégué des États-Unis à la troisième Conférence pan-américaine;

L'honorable Robert Bacon, sous-secrétaire d'État;

M. Benjamin Ide Wheeler, président de l'Université de Californie;

M. E. J. James, président de l'Université de l'Illinois;

M. Paul S. Reinsch, professeur à l'Université du Wisconsin;

M. William E. Curtis, le correspondant de la presse si bien connu, et

M. John Barrett, Directeur du Bureau International.

En nommant ce comité le Secrétaire d'État a dit qu'il pouvait rendre des services très importants et utiles en coopérant avec les différents pays américains pour arriver à une entente mutuelle et à des relations amicales.

RATIFICATION DES TRAITÉS CENTRO-AMÉRICAINS.

C'est avec plaisir que l'on voit la ratification des traités et conventions signés à la Conférence centro-américaine de la Paix, tenue récemment à Washington, par les Gouvernements de l'Amérique Centrale. Cette attitude des Gouvernements centro-américains ne peut manquer de recevoir un accueil favorable dans le monde entier et d'attirer l'attention sur les occasions qui se présentent dans ces pays pour leur développement et leur progrès. Comme on l'a dit maintes fois dans le BULLETIN, l'Amérique centrale peut être classée comme l'une des parties les plus riches de l'hémisphère occidental au point de vue des ressources naturelles. Elle n'attend que de grands capitaux, un plus grand nombre de chemins de fer, de meilleures lignes de paquebots et aussi un gouvernement stable pour se lancer dans une voie de progrès et de prospérité qui un jour étonnera l'univers.

L'HONORABLE WILLIAM J. BRYAN ET L'AMÉRIQUE LATINE.

En réponse à une invitation spéciale du Cercle commercial de Lincoln, Nebraska, M. JOHN BARRETT, Directeur du Bureau International, a prononcé le 15 février un discours au banquet annuel de cette organisation. Dans ce discours, il a discuté les relations commerciales extérieures des États-Unis surtout au point de vue de l'Amérique Latine. L'Honorable WILLIAM J. BRYAN, un des hommes publics le plus en vue aux États-Unis, étant un citoyen de Lincoln, M. BARRETT a échangé avec lui au sujet des États-Unis et de l'Amérique Latine des lettres qui ont plus d'un intérêt local et qu'on reproduit ci-dessous:

"BUREAU INTERNATIONAL DES
RÉPUBLIQUES AMÉRICAINES,
" *Washington, D. C., le 20 janvier 1908.*

"À l'Honorable WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN,
"*Aux bons soins du Bureau National de la Presse,*
" *Munsey Building, Washington, D. C.*

"CHER MONSIEUR BRYAN: Le Cercle commercial de Lincoln, Nebraska, m'a invité à prononcer un discours à l'occasion de son premier banquet annuel, sur les relations commerciales des États-Unis avec la République du Sud. Comme vous êtes l'un des habitants les plus en vue de cette ville et de cet État, et que l'on y apprécie

grandement votre manière de voir, je serais très heureux d'apprendre ce que vous pensez au sujet des démarches à faire pour le développement du commerce et le resserrement des liens d'amitié entre les États-Unis et ses nations sœurs, afin que je puisse lire à cette réunion de vos citoyens vos opinions à ce sujet.

"J'ajouterai que si vous êtes à Washington pendant quelque temps, je serais heureux de vous présenter aux Ambassadeurs et Ministres des Républiques de l'Amérique Latine qui composent notre Conseil d'administration et qui représentent l'élément le plus distingué des hommes d'État et citoyens de l'Amérique Latine.

"Veuillez agréer, Monsieur, l'assurance de mes sentiments respectueux.

"JOHN BARRETT."

"WASHINGTON, D. C., *le 28 janvier 1908.*

"À l'Honorable JOHN BARRETT,

"*Bureau des Républiques Américaines, Washington, D. C.*

"CHER MONSIEUR BARRETT: Je viens de recevoir votre lettre. En réponse aux renseignements que vous me demandez, j'ai l honneur de vous dire que je prends le plus vif intérêt au développement de notre commerce avec l'Amérique du Sud. Comme je pense que les idées républicaines sont destinées à se répandre dans le monde entier, c'est avec la plus grande sollicitude que je vois le développement des Républiques du Sud. J'ai visité deux fois le Mexique et j'ai assisté à l'inauguration du premier Président de la République cubaine. Je comptais faire un voyage dans l'Amérique du Sud cet hiver, mais j'ai dû le retarder, à mon grand regret.

"Si vous lisez les articles que j'ai écrits sur le Mexique et Cuba, vous verrez que j'en parle dans les meilleurs termes. J'appuie sur l'attitude du Président CLEVELAND au sujet du Vénézuela, et dans des articles de fond j'ai proposé l'encouragement du commerce entre les États-Unis et l'Amérique du Sud au moyen de l'établissement de lignes de vapeurs faisant le service des côtes est et ouest des deux pays. Au lieu de subventionner des lignes particulières j'ai proposé que notre Gouvernement construise des navires pouvant être utilisés comme transports en temps de guerre et les louer en temps de paix à des conditions qui assureront l'établissement du transport de marchandises et de voyageurs entre notre pays et tous les pays de l'Amérique du Sud.

"Je serai heureux de faire la connaissance des représentants des Républiques du Sud qui composent votre Conseil d'administration.

"En vous remerciant d'avoir bien voulu attirer mon attention sur ce sujet, je vous prie d'agréer, Monsieur, l'assurance de ma parfaite considération.

"WILLIAM J. BRYAN."

TÉMOIGNAGE DE RECONNAISSANCE DE L'AMÉRIQUE LATINE À M. ROOT, SECRÉTAIRE D'ÉTAT.

Le Conseil d'administration du Bureau International a profité de l'absence de M. ROOT, son président, à la dernière séance, pour manifester ses sentiments de reconnaissance. Quand il s'est agi de discuter la question du nouveau bâtiment, on a fait la proposition suivante, qui a été adoptée à l'unanimité et qui a été accompagnée de discours appropriés à la circonstance:

"Quand le nouveau bâtiment du Bureau International des Républiques Américaines sera en voie de construction on y érigera un témoignage de reconnaissance convenable en l'honneur de l'honorable M. ROOT, Secrétaire d'État, pour reconnaître les services signalés qu'il a rendus à l'Union pan-américaine et le travail persévérant dont il a fait preuve à son endroit."

CONFÉRENCE SUR CAMOËNS PAR M. NABUCO, AMBASSADEUR DU BRÉSIL.

L'Université de Yale vient d'inviter M. JOAQUIM NABUCO, le distingué et savant Ambassadeur du Brésil, à faire une conférence devant la faculté et les étudiants sur le grand poète portugais Camoëns. Il est intéressant de remarquer l'accroisement de l'intérêt dans les grands littérateurs du monde latin dont les noms sont si bien connus dans l'Amérique Latine et le sont si peu aux États-Unis, et, en invitant M. NABUCO, du Brésil, l'Université de Yale ne pouvait faire un choix plus heureux pour parler de Camoëns devant une audience comme celle qui se trouvera réunie à cette occasion. Non seulement M. NABUCO occupe le premier rang parmi les diplomates distingués de l'Amérique Latine, mais son érudition est reconnue dans le monde entier. Ce discours sera non seulement une source de renseignements, mais encore un chef-d'œuvre au point de vue littéraire.

UN MOT D'APPRÉCIATION DE M. BRIDGMAN.

Les personnes qui travaillent sérieusement à l'avancement d'une bonne cause, apprécient grandement un mot d'approbation venant d'un juge expert en la matière. Il paraît que dans l'audience qui écoutait le discours du Directeur du Bureau sur l'Amérique Latine et son voyage à travers les Andes, prononcé le 25 février devant la Société de Géographie américaine à Mendelssohn Hall, New York, se trouvait M. BRIDGMAN, le fameux explorateur et le rédacteur si distingué. Le journal "Brooklyn Standard Union" publie dans son numéro du dimanche, 1er mars, un article de fond

écrit par M. BRIDGMAN et intitulé: "L'Amérique Latine d'Aujourd'hui et de Demain," qui contient le paragraphe suivant:

"La Société géographique américaine a rendu, peut-être sans le vouloir, un grand service public en présentant M. BARRETT à une audience de New York, et toutes les personnes qui l'ont entendu sont sûrement d'accord pour penser qu'il serait bon de répéter son discours sous plusieurs formes et dans beaucoup d'endroits; que c'est peut-être le moment le plus opportun de le faire avec l'appui que donne le prestige des cuirassés et l'enthousiasme qu'a fait naître leur voyage triomphant autour du continent et que si les audiences sont difficiles à satisfaire et les orateurs peu nombreux, c'est à la presse que revient l'honneur de prendre en mains la question. Une des parties les plus agréables et intéressantes du discours de M. BARRETT était celle dans laquelle il a payé le plus haut tribut à M. ROOT, Secrétaire d'Etat qui, d'après lui, est l'homme le plus compétent qui ait occupé cette place, depuis le commencement de notre histoire. On sait qu'il a rendu de très grands services pendant son voyage dons l'Amérique du Sud, dont l'excursion de M. BARRETT dans les Cordillères n'était qu'un incident."

CONFÉRENCE DE YALE SUR L'AMÉRIQUE LATINE.

On donne dans ce numéro du BULLETIN, un résumé de ce que fait l'Université de Yale pour encourager l'étude de l'Amérique Latine. Si les autres universités préparent des cours similaires, le BULLETIN sera heureux d'en faire mention afin que les étudiants de l'Amérique du Nord et du Sud puissent se rendre compte des facilités qui leur sont offertes pour s'instruire à ce sujet. Non seulement l'Université de Yale, de Colombie, de Cornell, mais aussi celles des États du Wisconsin, de l'Illinois, de la Californie et Washington préparent des cours pour l'enseignement de ceux qui désirent étudier l'espagnol et se rendre compte de l'histoire et du développement de nos républiques-sœurs. Il est à souhaiter que toutes les institutions d'enseignement supérieur dans le pays suivent cet exemple, et le Bureau sera trop heureux de faire tout ce qu'il pourra pour leur aider dans la mesure du possible.

CERCLE COSMOPOLITAIN ET COLLÈGES.

Il y a en Amérique une organisation très peu connue, dont le travail est des plus efficaces dans les collèges des États-Unis pour favoriser le développement de relations plus intimes entre les étudiants de pays étrangers et ceux des États-Unis se trouvant dans

les mêmes établissements. On l'appelle avec raison le Cercle Cosmopolitain. Ses membres se composent non seulement d'étudiants étrangers qui suivent les cours des collèges des États-Unis, mais encore d'un certain nombre de jeunes gens de ce dernier pays qui s'intéressent aux pays étrangers. Partout où il a été organisé son travail a pleinement réussi, mais ce cercle n'est encore que dans son enfance et il fait entrevoir de grands résultats pour l'avenir. Toute espèce d'influence qui peut entourer les jeunes étrangers venant dans notre pays pour favoriser de meilleurs rapports avec eux ne peut manquer d'instruire tout à la fois les étrangers et les Américains au sujet de leurs pays respectifs. Probablement les étudiants des États-Unis connaissent beaucoup moins l'Amérique Latine que les étudiants de l'Amérique Latine ne connaissent les États-Unis. De là, il est facile de comprendre tout le bien que ce cercle peut faire. Le Bureau International lui souhaite une grande prospérité et un grand nombre de membres. On publie dans ce numéro du BULLETIN, un article donnant des détails sur son organisation et son but. Cet article a été envoyé au Bureau par un de ses administrateurs.

CONGRÈS SCIENTIFIQUE PAN-AMÉRICAIN.

Le 17 février il y a eu une réunion importante, mais ne revêtant aucun caractère officiel, du Conseil d'administration du Bureau International pour considérer le programme du Congrès scientifique panaméricain qui aura lieu à Santiago, Chili, au mois de décembre de cette année. Outre les membres du Conseil d'administration on y remarquait l'honorable ROBERT BACON, sous-secrétaire d'État, agissant en qualité de président et M. L. S. ROWE, professeur à l'Université de Pensylvanie, qui a été nommé membre du comité des États-Unis par les fonctionnaires chiliens chargés du congrès.

L'AMÉRIQUE LATINE À PHILADELPHIE.

Le 20 mars il y a eu à Philadelphie une réunion intéressante sous les auspices de l'Académie américaine des Sciences politiques et sociales, présidée par le Directeur du Bureau International, à laquelle assistaient plusieurs représentants diplomatiques de l'Amérique Latine. Le fait le plus important a été le discours intéressant et étendu du Professeur L. S. ROWE, qui travaille si fidèlement et avec tant de succès à développer des relations plus rapprochées, surtout du côté intellectuel, entre les États-Unis et leurs républiques-sœurs.

NOUVELLE REVUE POUR L'AMÉRIQUE LATINE.

On doit féliciter la rédaction d'une des principales revues du pays "The World of To-day" (Le Monde d'Aujourd'hui) sur le projet qu'elle a de publier une édition espagnole sous le titre de "El Mundo de Hoy," édition qui est destinée à avoir une grande circulation dans les pays de l'Amérique Latine. On a informé le Bureau que les rédacteurs font tout ce qu'ils peuvent pour que leur entreprise n'échoue pas comme l'ont fait tant d'autres de ce genre qui n'ont pas été assez étudiées. Le principal obstacle dans le passé a été que la compagnie publiant la revue n'avait ni assez d'expérience, ni assez de capitaux, ou encore qu'elle ne s'était pas rendu un compte exact du caractère du peuple latino-américain et des sujets à traiter dans une publication de ce genre.

Si l'on exécute le programme de "Le Monde d'Aujourd'hui," tel qu'on l'annonce dans le prospectus, les promoteurs de l'entreprise ne peuvent manquer de voir leurs efforts couronnés de succès.

PORTRAIT DU PRÉSIDENT DÍAZ PAR M. CREELMAN.

Parmi les nombreux articles qui ont paru sur M. le général Díaz, Président du Mexique, celui de M. James Creelman, publié dans la revue "Pearson" du mois de mars est peut-être la meilleure petite histoire authentique qui ait été publiée. C'est en quelques mots le portrait du premier magistrat du Mexique qui permet au lecteur de comprendre facilement l'homme et d'apprécier ce qu'il a fait pour son pays. M. Creelman a joui du rare avantage d'avoir des entrevues avec un grand nombre d'hommes distingués du monde entier, et il sait si bien les décrire que ce qu'il écrit au sujet du général Díaz présente un intérêt tout particulier. Son appréciation du travail de Díaz comme fondateur d'une nation et la position qu'il doit occuper dans l'histoire, ainsi que le portrait fait en détail de sa personne, frappent le lecteur par sa grande exactitude.

BANQUET OFFERT À SEÑOR PULIDO À L'OCCASION DE SON DÉPART.

Avant de retourner dans son pays, Señor Don Augusto F. Pulido, qui a été pendant de nombreuses années dans le service diplomatique du Venezuela à Washington, a été l'objet d'une très belle démonstration de la part des membres du Cercle "Metropolitan" de cette ville, qui représente l'élite du monde social, diplomatique, financier et politique des États-Unis. Au banquet d'adieu qui a été donné en l'honneur de Señor Pulido, on lui a offert une magnifique coupe en

argent sur laquelle il y avait une inscription appropriée à la circonstance et le fac-similé des signatures des quatre-vingts membres du Cercle ayant souscrit pour lui offrir ce témoignage de leur estime et de leur sympathie.

VOYAGE CIRCULAIRE DE L'AMÉRIQUE DU SUD.

Comme preuve de l'intérêt toujours croissant qui se fait voir parmi les voyageurs au sujet de l'Amérique du Sud, MM. BUSK & JEVONS, agents généraux des lignes de paquebots Lamport & Holt, viennent de publier un prospectus sous le titre de "Voyage circulaire spécial de l'Amérique du Sud: New York à Bahia; Bahia à Rio de Janeiro; Rio de Janeiro à Santos; Santos à Montévidéo; Montévidéo à Buenos-Aires; Buenos-Aires à travers les Andes par chemin de fer à Valparaiso; Valparaiso à Panama par vapeur, à travers l'isthme à Colon, et de là à New York ou *vice-versa.*"

Ce long voyage peut se faire au prix comparativement modique de $475, y compris les repas et les cabines sur les paquebots et les places de première classe sur les lignes de chemins de fer. Dans son dernier numéro, le BULLETIN a publié des photographies d'un des nouveaux paquebots de cette ligne qui fait le service mensuel à Montévidéo et à Buenos-Aires. Ces paquebots font le voyage de New York à Rio de Janeiro en dix-huit jours et à Buenos-Aires en vingt-six jours.

ROUTES COMMERCIALES SUD-AMÉRICAINES.

Un numéro récent de "Dunn's Review" contient un article intéressant, préparé par le Professeur J. RUSSELL SMITH, au sujet des routes commerciales de l'Amérique du Sud par rapport aux voies maritimes intérieures correspondant avec les chemins de fer. A cause des nombreuses demandes de renseignements que l'on reçoit au Bureau à ce sujet, on publie quelques extraits de cet article dans ce numéro du BULLETIN.

PROGRÈS DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE ARGENTINE EN 1907.

Les rapports officiels reçus de la République Argentine montrent que les conditions prospères que l'on a remarquées en 1906 ont continué pendant l'année 1907. Les chiffres du commerce extérieur accusent une augmentation d'environ $20,000,000 et une balance commerciale de plus de $10,000,000 en faveur du pays. Les statistiques de l'immigration montrent qu'il est entré 329,122 personnes. Les conditions dans lesquelles se trouvent les banques sont dans un meilleur état qu'au 30 juin 1907, le solde de la banque de la Nation Argentine

indiquant un état très satisfaisant. La banque a, en ce moment, 104 succursales dans le pays et on compte augmenter ce nombre dans le cours de l'année. Les constructions que l'on a faites dans la capitale s'élèvent à la somme de $79,033,833, papier, soit une augmentation de plus de $20,000,000 sur l'année 1906, et les recettes douanières à Buenos-Aires ont augmenté de $943,882 en or. Les récoltes de blé et de lin ont été très abondantes ce qui a contre-balancé la production minime du maïs et les compagnies de chemins de fer ont pris les mesures nécessaires pour transporter facilement les produits de ces récoltes.

COMMERCE ET INDUSTRIES DE LA BOLIVIE.

On attire l'attention sur la différence constatée dans ce numéro du BULLETIN entre les chiffres publiés par la Bolivie et ceux qui sont publiés par les États-Unis au sujet du commerce entre les deux pays. Dans la liste d'exportations publiée par les États-Unis, la Bolivie ne figure que pour $1,502,622, tandis que les rapports consulaires sur les envois de New-York et de San-Francisco donnent un chiffre de $2,852,000. Ceci s'explique sans doute par le fait qu'une partie considérable des marchandises destinées à la Bolivie est expédiée *via* les ports chiliens, péruviens et brésiliens.

Les renseignements au sujet de la Bolivie que l'on publie dans ce numéro sont extraits d'un rapport très intéressant publié en août 1907 par le Département de la Colonisation et de l'Agriculture.

PROTECTION DOUANIÈRE ACCORDÉE AUX INDUSTRIES BRÉSILIENNES.

Au sujet de la révision projetée du tarif douanier du Brésil, on a préparé une liste officielle des industries manufacturières en exploitation dans le pays, pour servir de base dans l'établissement du nouveau tarif. On évalue à $163,349,000 le montant du capital placé dans les industries manufacturières, ce qui représente 2,397 établissements. La production textile augmente rapidement, ce qui explique la diminution constatée dans les recettes des différents pays exportateurs. En vue de la valeur commerciale de la nouvelle fibre Perini, le gouvernement l'exploite afin de faire concurrence au coton.

En 1907, la production et l'exportation de café, sous le nouveau système de valorisation ont augmenté sur l'année 1906 de plus de 1,000,000 de sacs représentant plus de $100,000,000. Le café brésilien représente 77.34 pour cent de la consommation des États-Unis, soit 727,187,465 livres sur une consommation totale de 940,247,317 livres en 1907.

DÉVELOPPEMENT DES MOYENS DE COMMUNICATION AU CHILI.

Le gouvernement chilien s'occupe de l'amélioration des moyens de communication, ainsi qu'on peut le voir par le décret promulgué en janvier 1908. Par ce décret, on autorise la dépense de $37,000,000 pour la construction du chemin de fer longitudinal et on donne la somme de $15,500,000 aux lignes de l'Etat pour l'année 1908. Au 1er juillet 1907, sur les 927,639 kilomètres de chemins de fer projetés par les autorités nationales, le Bureau des Travaux Publics avait fait le tracé de 707,233 kilomètres. On encourage aussi le développement du service de la marine marchande et actuellement le Brésil est le seul pays de l'Amérique du Sud qui dépasse le tonnage des navires chiliens, s'élevant à 156,316 tonnes.

TRAITÉ IMPORTANT ENTRE LA COLOMBIE ET L'ÉQUATEUR.

La signature d'un traité d'amitié, de commerce et de navigation entre les gouvernements de la Colombie et de l'Équateur ainsi que l'échange des ratifications le 24 août 1907, marque une ère importante dans le développement des deux Républiques. On compte dans l'Équateur plus de 40,000 Colombiens. Le traité dont il s'agit embrasse toutes les questions de droit international qui pourraient surgir entre des pays si étroitement unis.

RAPPORT DE COSTA RICA SUR LA CONFÉRENCE CENTRO-AMÉRICAINE DE LA PAIX.

L'approbation et la ratification par le Gouvernement de Costa Rica des différents traités et conventions signés à la Conférence centro-américaine de la Paix, tenue à Washington au mois de décembre 1907, donnent une valeur toute particulière au rapport présenté au Congrès national par Señor Don Luis Anderson, ministre des affaires etrangères de Costa Rica et Président de la Conférence. On reproduit ce rapport dans ce numéro du Bulletin.

RECETTES DE CUBA ET DÉVELOPPEMENT DU PAYS.

Les recettes cubaines se sont élevées en 1907 à la somme de $29,118,827. La plus grande partie de cette somme provenait du port de La Havane. Pour faire face aux dépenses occasionnées par l'établissement d'un système d'égouts dans cette ville ainsi que par le pavage de ses rues, on a décidé dernièrement d'employer 10 pour cent des droits de douanes perçus dans ce port. Les travaux de construction doivent être achevés en six mois et l'on estime que 10

pour cent des recettes pendant cette période s'élèveront à $12,000,000. Diverses modifications au tarif douanier du pays sont entrées en vigueur le 28 février 1908, ces modifications traitent spécialement des machines et appareils pour les industries du sucre et leurs produits.

CONDITIONS INTÉRIEURES DE L'ÉQUATEUR ET COMMERCE DU PAYS.

La valeur des produits indigènes de l'Équateur, tels que le cacao, le caoutchouc, les chapeaux, etc., a augmenté sur les marchés du monde entier pendant l'année 1907, améliorant ainsi les conditions commerciales du pays, et le prolongement du chemin de fer de Puerto Bolivar et Machala dans les districts produisant le caoutchouc a grandement facilité le transport de ce produit à la côte. Un conseil d'arbitrage discute le marché du chemin de fer de Guayaquil et Quito avec le Gouvernement et ce dernier vient de promulguer un décret autorisant une nouvelle émission d'obligations garanties par les recettes provenant de l'impôt sur le sel afin de permettre d'effectuer le paiement des coupons semestriels aux échéances des 2 janvier, 2 juillet 1908 et 2 janvier 1909. L'exportation du sel aux ports de la Colombie a été fructueuse pendant l'année 1906–7.

RAPPORT FRANÇAIS SUR LES CONDITIONS COMMERCIALES DU GUATÉMALA.

Quoiqu'il ne traite que de l'année 1906, le rapport du chargé d'affaires de France au Guatémala sur les conditions de ce pays, contient les dernières données qu'on a pu se procurer sur les relations commerciales entre cette République et les différents pays du monde. On en publie donc dans ce numéro la traduction presque *in extenso*. On voit que si les Etats-Unis fournissent la moitié des importations du Guatémala, l'Allemagne les dépasse de beaucoup comme pays importateur des produits de ce pays. Les chiffres diffèrent quelque peu de ceux que le Bureau des Statistiques des Etats-Unis a publiés. Ce Bureau fait voir qu'il y a une augmentation très importante pour l'année 1907 dans les importations provenant du Guatémala.

CONDITIONS FINANCIÈRE DU MEXIQUE.

À la fin de l'année 1907, la situation des 34 banques du Mexique autorisées par le Gouvernement, était des plus satisfaisantes et la crise financière de l'année ne semble pas les affecter matériellement. Le rapport de M. LIMANTOUR, Ministre des Finances, a attiré beaucoup d'attention, et la conclusion des négociations pour la fusion des chemins de fer entre le gouvernement, les quatre banques interna-

tionales de New York et deux compagnies de Londres aura une influence importante sur la situation. Les recettes douanières pour la dernière période couvrant sept mois de l'année 1907–8 ont augmenté, et le commerce pour les cinq premiers mois de cette année fiscale a augmenté de plus de $14,000,000 sur la même période de l'année 1906–7. Les chiffres ayant trait aux conditions commerciales pendant le premier semestre de l'année 1907–8 font ressortir une augmentation de plus de $4,800,000 dans les exportations et une plus-value de $7,600,000 dans les importations sur l'année précédente. D'après les rapports consulaires les diverses industries indigènes indiquent une situation florissante.

CONCESSIONS ET AMÉLIORATIONS AU NICARAGUA.

Le Président du Nicaragua a décrété une augmentation dans l'émission d'obligations d'exportation pour faire face au service de la dette extérieure. On a porté à $400,000 le montant de cet emprunt qui était primitivement de $75,000. Le service de la dette a été acquitté régulièrement en 1907, et les améliorations générales inaugurées par suite de concessions accordées pour l'exploitation de produits naturels, indiquent une continuation de l'état satisfaisant de l'année actuelle. On a passé en adjudication les travaux pour la construction d'une ligne de chemins de fer allant de San José del Sur sur le littoral du Pacifique jusqu'à l'intérieur. On va faire des travaux de dragage à la barre du Rio Grande et améliorer les facilités de navigation. On a accordé des concessions pour l'exploitation des minéraux et de la gutta-percha qui augmenteront considérablement les recettes du Gouvernement.

COMMERCE EXTÉRIEUR EN 1907.

D'après des renseignements officiels qui viennent d'être transmis au BULLETIN MENSUEL par M. ISIDORO HAZERA, ministre des Finances de la République de Panama, il résulte que le commerce extérieur de ce pays en 1907, s'est élevé à un total de $19,165,548.69, dont $17,204,983.77 pour les importations et $1,960,664.92 pour les exportations.

IMPULSION DONNÉE AUX RELATIONS SOCIALES ET COMMERCIALES.

On reproduit dans ce numéro du BULLETIN les photographies de ceux qui ont remporté, pour le meilleur essai sur les États-Unis, les prix offerts par M. KELLOGG, consul américain. Ces photographies prouvent que la propagande que notre Consul a faite pour augmenter les connaissances des habitants de Panama au sujet des États-Unis

a donné de bons résultats. M. KELLOGG fait savoir que ce concours a donné un grand essor à l'étude de l'anglais et des institutions des États-Unis, et il considère que cette connaissance est la seule base sur laquelle on peut développer les relations sociales et commerciales entre les pays intéressés.

COMMERCE ET RESSOURCES DU SALVADOR.

On estime à $6,000,000 environ la valeur totale des exportations du Salvador faites pendant les neuf premiers mois de l'année 1907; les États-Unis y figurent pour $1,592,473. Le Salvador donne des chiffres plus élevés; il estime à plus de $2,000,000 les exportations faites aux États-Unis pendant les neuf mois en question.

Les recettes provenant du service télégraphique et téléphonique font ressortir une augmentation de $1,000, et d'après un rapport important de M. ERNEST SCHERNIKOW, consul du Salvador à New-York, l'industrie minière du pays est on ne peut plus florissante.

FINANCES ET PROGRÈS ÉCONOMIQUES DE L'URUGUAY.

Le surplus du Trésor est évalué à plus de $2,000,000 pour l'année fiscale 1907, et les recettes de l'année accusent une augmentation de plus de $6,000,000 sur l'année 1906. Bien que les recettes douanières pour l'année ne montrent pas une augmentation aussi considérable que pour les deux années précédentes, le total, qui dépasse la somme de $13,000,000, établit un record depuis l'année 1894. Le service de la dette du pays a été acquitté promptement pendant l'année.

NOUVELLE LOI DOUANIÈRE AU VÉNÉZUELA.

Une nouvelle loi douanière, publiée dans la "Gaceta Oficial" du 13 janvier 1908, est entrée en vigueur en même temps que sa promulgation dans ce journal.

APPROBATION DES CONVENTIONS DE LA CONFÉRENCE CENTRO-AMÉRICAINE DE LA PAIX.

Les différents corps législatifs des Gouvernements de l'Amérique Centrale ont informé le Département d'État des États-Unis aux dates ci-dessous mentionnées, qu'ils ont approuvé les conventions signées dans la Conférence de la Paix à Washington en décembre 1907:

Nicaragua, le 15 février 1908. Costa Rica, le 25 février 1908. Salvador, le 27 février 1908. Honduras, le 3 mars 1908. Guatemala, le 13 mars 1908.

LE CAFÉ DE L'AMÉRIQUE CENTRALE.

D'après les calculs faits sur la production du café des differentes Républiques de l'Amérique du Centre pour l'année 1907–8, le Guatémala a produit 600,000 quintaux; le Nicaragua 137,000 quintaux, le Salvador 500,000 quintaux, et Costa Rica 160,000 sacs.

La production du Nicaragua a donc diminué de 34,500 quintaux et celle du Guatémala reste stationnaire.

RÉPUBLIQUE ARGENTINE.

COMMERCE EXTÉRIEUR EN 1907.

D'après les chiffres publiés par le Bureau des Statistiques de la République Argentine, les données préliminaires ayant trait au commerce extérieur du pays pendant l'année 1907 font ressortir un total de $582,065,052 contre $562,224,450 en 1906, soit une augmentation de $19,840,602.

IMMIGRATION.

Pendant l'année 1907, il est arrivé dans la République Argentine 329,122 passagers et immigrants venant de pays étrangers et de Montévidéo.

CULTURE DU RIZ.

Le Département de l'Agriculture de la République Argentine pense que l'on pourrait cultiver avantageusement le riz dans le pays. On estime à 13,000,000 de kilos la production totale du riz en 1907 et la superficie en culture à 4,352 hectares. On cultive le riz dans les provinces de Tucuman, de Salta, de Jujuy, de San Juan, de Santiago del Estero et de Misiones. La production moyenne est d'environ 3,000 kilos par hectare, au prix de $150 (monnaie nationale) par hectare. Comme le prix moyen du riz en parchemin est de $9 à $10 (or) les 100 kilos, on voit que la production peut en tirer un grand bénéfice. Les importations de riz pendant les neuf premiers mois de l'année 1907 se sont élevées à 12,716 tonnes de riz en parchemin, évaluées à $254,320, et à 15,415 tonnes de riz décortiqué, évaluées à $1,233,145. Le riz en parchemin provient principalement de possessions anglaises et le riz décortiqué de l'Italie.

CHEMIN DE FER DES ANDES.

Le Comité des Travaux Publics de la Chambre des Députés du Congrès argentin a décidé de remettre jusqu'à la prochaine session, la discussion du projet de loi autorisant la vente du chemin de fer des Andes pour la somme de $27,828,000.

BOLIVIE.

COMMERCE AVEC LES ÉTATS-UNIS.

D'après des renseignements fournis au Bureau International des Républiques Américaines par Señor Don Ignacio Calderon, ministre de Bolivie à Washington, les exportations de New York et de San Francisco en Bolivie se sont élevées à $2,852,460.30 en 1907 contre $1,136,603.91 en 1906, soit une augmentation de $1,715,856.39. En 1905 les exportations provenant de ces ports s'étaient élevées à $1,720,000, de sorte qu'il y a eu une augmentation de près de 100 pour cent dans les deux années.

BRÉSIL.

COMMERCE EXTÉRIEUR, ONZE MOIS DE 1907.

Les importations du Brésil pendant les onze mois, de janvier à novembre 1907, se sont élevées à $183,000,000, contre $146,000,000 en 1906. Les exportations pour les deux périodes dont il est question ont été de $252,000,000 et de $238,000,000, respectivement. Le café et le caoutchouc réunis y figurent pour plus de $192,000,000.

TRAVAUX DE PORT.

Le Ministère de l'Industrie, des Chemins de Fer et des Travaux Publics a mis en adjudication les travaux de construction du port de Recife. On recevra les soumissions jusqu'au 26 mars 1908, à midi.

COMMERCE DE SANTOS EN 1907.

La valeur totale du commerce extérieur du port de Santos en 1907 s'est élevée à $107,000,000 pour les exportations et à $42,000,000 pour les importations contre, $101,000,000 et $32,000,000 pour l'année antérieure.

RECETTES DOUANIÈRES À PARA.

Les recettes douanières de Para se sont élevées en 1907 à 9,373,600$794 en or et à 22,575;310$099 en papier.

RATIFICATION DE LA CONVENTION SANITAIRE.

Le Département d'État des États-Unis vient d'informer le Bureau International des Républiques Américaines de la ratification par le Gouvernement brésilien en date du 9 janvier 1908, de la convention sanitaire internationale de Washington.

IMMIGRATION.

Il est entré dans le port de Rio de Janeiro pendant l'année 1907 31,173 immigrants, soit 4,026 de plus qu'en 1906.

CHILI.

L'Exposition nationale de chaussure et de cuirs inaugurée le 18 octobre 1907, à Santiago, a démontré que l'industrie des cuirs a atteint un très haut degré de perfection. Vingt-trois fabriques ont pris part à l'exposition, y compris des cordonneries et des tanneries. Il y a plus de 50,000,000 de pesos placés dans ces industries.

CHAUSSURES ET CUIR EN 1907.

Le 9 avril 1907 il a été signé à Berlin, entre le Chili et le Danemark, un traité de commerce et de navigation par lequel ces deux Gouvernements s'accordent le traitement de la nation la plus favorisée. Il est toutefois bien entendu que le Danemark ne pourra s'appuyer sur ce traité pour réclamer des droits aux réductions spéciales faites par le Chili aux pays de l'Amérique du Centre et du Sud sur les droits de douane, de port, de môle et de navigation.

TRAITÉ DE COMMERCE AVEC LE DANEMARK.

COLOMBIE.

Selon des données transmises au Bureau International des Républiques Américaines par M. I. A. MANNING, Consul des États-Unis, il y a eu une augmentation en 1907 sur l'année 1906 dans les exportations de la Colombie *via* Cartagène. Les expéditions de café ont augmenté de 3,908,647 kilogrammes; le tabac de 2,267.15 kilogrammes; l'ivoire végétal de 1,968,816 kilogrammes, et le caoutchouc de 20,052 kilogrammes.

COMMERCE DE CARTAGÈNE.

D'après un rapport publié dans le "Diaro Oficial" de Colombie en date du 24 décembre 1907, le Gouvernement colombien a accordé aux compagnies de chemins de fer pour l'année 1908 des subventions s'élevant à $900,000 en or.

SUBVENTIONS EN 1908.

CUBA.

D'après des statistiques officielles, les recettes fiscales du pays pour l'année 1907 se sont élevées à $29,118,827.29 contre $27,418,435.14 en 1906, soit une augmentation de $1,700,392.15. En 1907, la perception des impôts destinés à l'amortissement de l'emprunt s'est élevée à $3,692,786.16, soit une augmentation de $9,043.32 sur celle de l'année antérieure.

RECETTES FISCALES.

ÉTATS-UNIS.

On trouvera à la page 589 le dernier rapport du commerce entre les États-Unis et l'Amérique Latine, extrait de la compilation faite par le Bureau des Statistiques du Ministère du Commerce et du Travail. Le rapport a trait au mois de janvier 1908, et donne un tableau comparatif de ce mois avec le mois correspondant de l'année 1907. Il donne aussi un tableau des sept mois finissant au mois de janvier 1908, en les comparant avec la période correspondente de l'année précédente. On sait que les chiffres des différents bureaux de douane montrant les importations et les exportations pour un mois quelconque ne sont reçus au Ministère des Finances que le 20 du mois suivant, et qu'il faut un certain temps pour les compiler et les faire imprimer, de sorte que les résultats pour le mois de janvier ne peuvent être publiés avant le mois de mars.

COMMERCE AVEC L'AMÉRIQUE LATINE.

Le total des importations de café dans les États-Unis en 1907 s'est élevé à 940,247,312 livres contre 867,013,585 dans l'année précédente. Sur cette quantité le Brésil en a fourni 727,187,456 livres, soit 77.34 pour cent; le continent américain tout entier en a fourni environ 98 pour cent. La consommation par tête en 1907 a été d'environ 11 livres et le prix moyen d'importation de 7.64 cents la livre.

IMPORTATIONS DE CAFÉ.

Les exportations d'articles en caoutchouc et en gutta-percha se sont élevées pendant l'année 1907 à $6,993,333 contre $5,658,606 en 1906.

ARTICLES EN CAOUTCHOUC.

D'après un rapport du Département de l'Agriculture des États-Unis, sur le recensement du bétail sur pied dans le pays au 1er janvier, il y avait au 1er janvier 1908, 205,843,000 têtes de bétail de toutes sortes, évaluées à $4,331,230,000, contre $4,423,698,000, soit une diminution de $92,468,000 ou 2.1 pour cent.

BÉTAIL.

Les recettes provenant de l'impôt intérieur font voir une diminution de 20,258,907 dans le nombre de cigares fabriqués pendant l'année 1907 en la comparant avec l'année 1906; les chiffres des deux années étant de 7,353,232,089 et de 7,373,490,996, respectivement. Le commerce des "petits cigares" a augmenté de 994,791,203 à 1,069,079,350, soit une augmentation de 74,288,147, et les cigarettes ont augmenté de 930,061,509 en 1907 sur l'année antérieure. Le tabac manufacturé a augmenté de 2,097,158 livres en 1907.

TABAC.

EXPORTATIONS DE VIANDE.

Les statistiques sur les exportations d'animaux pour la viande de boucherie et de produits de viande des États-Unis en 1907, accusent une diminution de $4,637,040 dans la valeur des animaux et de $6,553,359 dans la valeur des viandes en les comparant avec l'année précédente. La valeur totale des exportations de viande en 1907 s'est élevée à $192,962,623, contre $199,515,982 en 1906, et la valeur des expéditions d'animaux pour la viande de boucherie pendant les deux périodes a été de $34,808,819 et $39,445,859, respectivement.

MEXIQUE.

GISEMENTS D'ASPHALTE.

D'après le rapport d'un consul anglais sur les gisements d'asphalte au Mexique, il paraît que la production est principalement limitée aux districts de Tuxpam et de Tampico sur le golfe du Mexique. Le produit de Tuxpam est très recherché sur les marchés du monde entier. Actuellement les demandes dépassent les quantités disponibles. On expédie de loin en loin des chargements en Europe et principalement à destination de l'Allemagne. Le prix moyen est de $55 par tonne en monnaie mexicaine. Il y a des centaines de milliers de tonnes d'asphalte dans les districts de Tampico et de Tuxpam, mais l'exploitation ne fait que commencer.

L'achèvement du canal de Tuxpam facilitera le transport de ce produit au port de Tampico.

RECETTES DOUANIÈRES, SEPT MOIS DE 1907.

Les recettes douanières de la République du Mexique pour les sept premiers mois de l'année fiscale 1907–8 accusent un total de 34,695,358.60 piastres, contre 30,442,429.57 piastres en 1906–7, soit une augmentation de 4,252,929.03 piastres en faveur de l'année 1907–8.

PANAMA.

COMMERCE EXTÉRIEUR.

D'après le rapport du Trésor, le total du commerce extérieur de la République de Panama pendant l'année 1907 s'est élevé à $19,165,648.69. Les États-Unis figurent pour $5,196,964.38 dans les importations sur un total de $17,204,983.17, sans compter $7,640,533.86, valeur des produits importés en franchise de New-York dans la Zone du Canal. Les statistiques des États-Unis évaluent à $18,665,323 les expéditions faites pendant l'année à Panama. Les exportations totales se sont élevées à $1,960,664.92, soit une augmentation de $842,643.92. Les États-Unis sont pour ainsi dire le seul pays importateur de produits de Panama.

PÉROU.

COMMERCE AVEC NEW-YORK.

D'après le rapport du Consul général à New-York, le commerce entre ce port et la République du Pérou pendant les neuf premiers mois de l'année 1907 s'est élevé à $4,308,683 pour les importations et à $4,794,093 pour les exportations, soit une balance de $514,590 en faveur du Pérou.

URUGUAY.

CONDITION FINANCIÈRE.

À la fin de l'année fiscale finissant le 30 juin 1907 il y avait dans le Trésor un surplus de $2,149,984, contre $453,110 pour l'année précédente, dépassant ainsi toute autre année au point de vue de la prospérité du pays. Sur cet excédent on a consacré $1,000,000 à l'augmentation du capital de la Banque de la République, spécialement pour lui permettre d'augmenter l'émission de ses billets; la plus grande partie des sommes restantes a été consacrée aux différents travaux publics et services sous la rubrique de "dépenses extraordinaires."

RECETTES DOUANIÈRES.

Les recettes douanières de la République de l'Uruguay pour l'année 1907, se sont élevées à $13,195,210, contre $12,863,597 dans l'année précédente, soit une augmentation nette de $331,612. Dans ces recettes on ne comprend pas les surtaxes destinées au fonds des travaux de port et qui s'élèvent probablement à $1,200,000.

CONGRÈS INTERNATIONAL D'ÉTUDIANTS AMÉRICAINS.

La première réunion du Congrès international des Étudiants américains a eu lieu le 26 janvier 1908 à Montévidéo, République de l'Uruguay. Il y avait plus de 1,000 délégués, représentant huit pays de l'Amérique Latine. On a élu M. le Docteur MIRANDA, de l'Uruguay, président du Congrès, et le Président de la République, ainsi que les Ministres des Affaires étrangères et de l'Instruction publique ont été élus présidents honoraires.

RÉVISION DU CODE MINIER.

Le Gouvernement uruguayen vient de nommer une commission chargée de la révision du code minier. L'industrie minière du pays, bien que susceptible d'un grand développement, n'a jamais été exploitée sur une grande échelle, et on espère qu'avec l'établissement d'un code légal satisfaisant on arrivera à faire disparaître la plus grande partie des obstacles qui empêchent son développement.

RECETTES DE LA BANQUE DE L'URUGUAY.

Les recettes de la Banque de Montévidéo en 1907 se sont élevées à $728,242, contre $448,672 en 1906. Comme le Gouvernement est le seul actionnaire, il reçoit 80 pour cent des bénéfices, soit $592,594.

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Nicaragua	(See Costa Rica.)
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Paraguay	(See Uruguay.)
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